

worshipped in many places in Teeswater. Among them may be mentioned: Brown's grist mill where, in 1856, during the Rev. John Scott's visit here, sixteen children were baptized; the log school; Orange Hall; what is now R. J. Mann's store house (G. & J. Inglis' store); and the Town Hall. Other denominations have used all these places except the store house.

If we had visited here in 1862 we would have found very few people or houses, and no streets — just a road slashed wide enough to allow a waggon to pass. There were the places already mentioned across the river. On the west side of Clinton street it was solid bush; and standing in it were Archie McKenzie's tavern and David Watson's blacksmith shop. Thomas Fairbairn had moved to the south side of the river and had a house and office behind the Public Library, facing Edmund Square. William Gordon ran a store called the Glasgow House where W. J. Freeman is; the Ice Cream parlor was the building. Where William Fowler is, George Colvin had a small cottage; and where W. Little's block now stands, James Moore, a builder, had a little house. On the east side of the street, where C. Martin's home is, lived F. Ballagh, and D. Fairbairn had his house and foundry opposite, then right in the bush. When you got as far as the Vendome, there was a little store built by a man named Bain, but then occupied by J. McLean. It was burned in 1866. From McLean's the bush had been slashed as far as the "Travellers' Rest". At the corner opposite the Bank of Hamilton A. Oliver had a tin shop. If you turned east at Oliver's corner, you would pass D. Watson's home and Ellis's log house. Back where William Armstrong now lives, William Watson was

living, and P. B. Brown in the house now occupied by Albert Brown, but only the central part of the present house was erected at that time. The Orange Hall was also built and very much used as a meeting place. P. B. Brown gave the land, his payment to be an ear of corn each year. These houses, with the few buildings over the river, comprised Teeswater.

About this time two men by the name of Carr visited here and tried to get water power where Little's mill now stands. Their intention was to erect a flour and woollen mill. Unfortunately for Teeswater too much was asked for the water privilege. If these men had come it would have given us a great advantage over other towns.

It was in the latter part of this year that our esteemed friend, Mr. J. K. McLean, J. P., settled here. James Moore built for him in 1863 the store now occupied by William Mallough. Mr. McLean was the first tailor here. A man who was employed by him and who later started in business for himself, was John McVicar; his house and shop were on the lot where Messrs Kennedy and Constantine now live. Across the road from Mr. McVicar, in the red house still standing, John Mack opened a shoe shop. He removed afterwards to the house next to Hadwen's store.

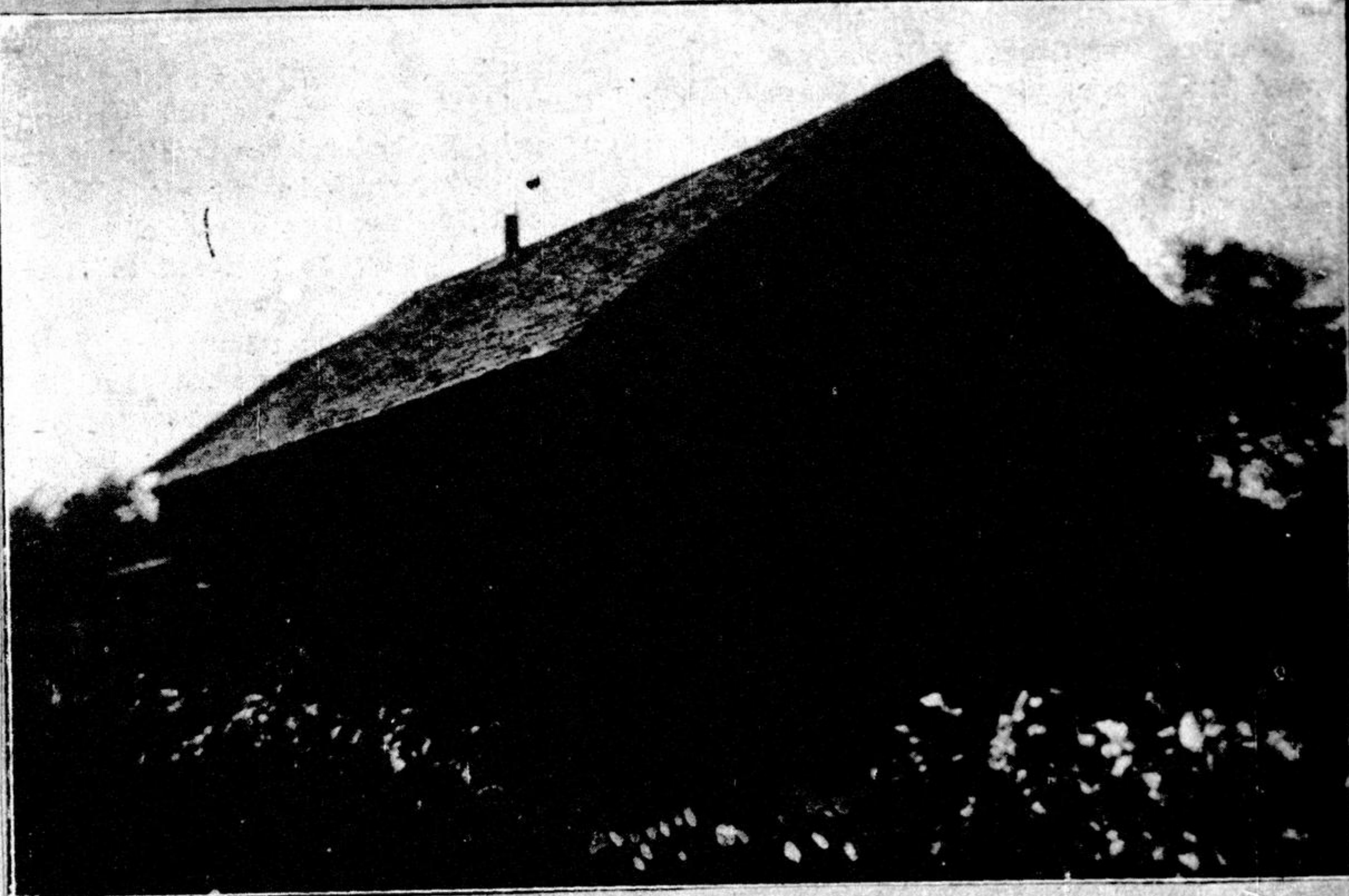
Dr. J. F. Halstead came in 1862 and lived for a short time in the house that Spence had used as a shoe shop while over the river, Spence having moved in the meantime to the house where Mr. McMillan now lives.

Dr. Neil Fleming came in 1864. As a platform speaker he has had no peer among our citizens. But for his unfortunate failing, no power could ever have prevented him from representing South Bruce in Parliament. Fleming

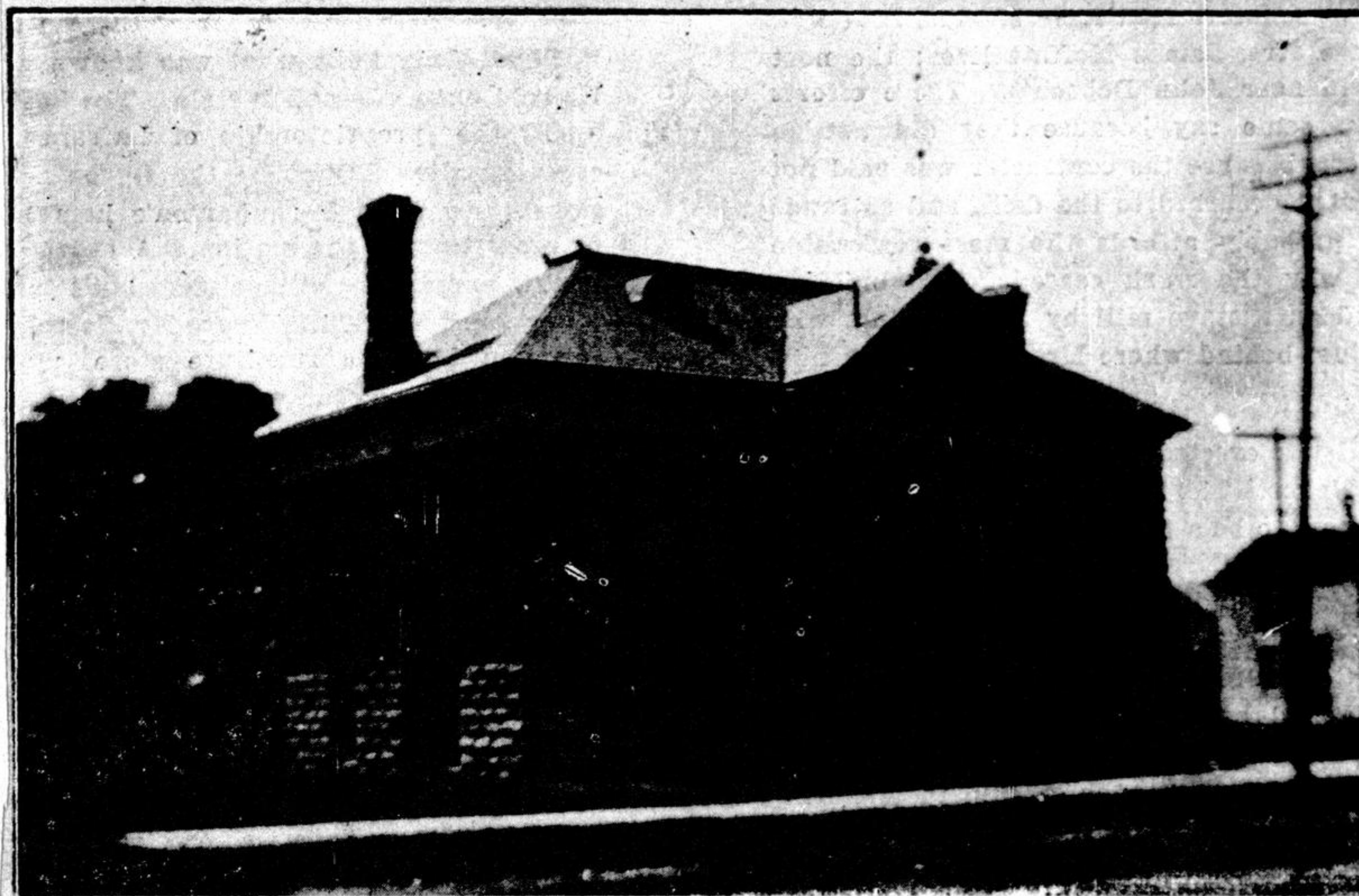
was a big, fine looking man with a brown flowing beard; and when you saw him coming along with his wide soft felt hat, white ulster coat and big top boots, he certainly cut a figure that made you feel like turning to look at him as he passed. He had a large practice when he first came; but it fell away and he moved to Mildmay where he died about 1880. Dr. Murphy resided here for a very short time; From Teeswater he removed to Mernersville, afterwards called Mildmay.

A perusal of the minutes of the Council at this time shows, as might be expected, that the Council's time was largely taken up with contracts for roads. The Gravel road was built by contract in 1867. Before it was built it was practically impossible to cross the river where the present iron bridge is; so steep were the banks that a load could not be taken up or down. The village at this time was growing but very slowly. Spence and Douglas opened a tannery on the site of the present one. Douglas & Clendenning, and then Robert Douglas conducted it. Douglas was twice burned out, but re-built it after each fire.

TEESWATER TOWN HALL



The old Orange Hall. This was the building in which Council meetings church services and entertainments of all kinds were held prior to the erection of the Town Hall in 1868.



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