

The Georgetown Herald

FORTY-EIGHTH YEAR

GEORGETOWN, WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 17, 1913

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

Georgetown

A Busy Manufacturing Community



MAIN STREET SOUTH

Of the smaller urban centres of Ontario, perhaps none is better known or more thriving, considering its size, than the occasion and progressive village of Georgetown. There is probably not another village in Canada possessing so many manufacturing concerns as does Georgetown. Indeed, the number and quality of our industries would be the boast of towns four times the size of ours, if they possessed them. We may, therefore, be excused if we point to the manufacturing of the village and surrounding vicinity with pride and satisfaction. Indeed it is the wonder of our neighbors how this municipality has secured so many industries. We shall not attempt here to answer that question, but, other than by pointing out that Georgetown has been specially fortunate in possessing public-spirited citizens who have worked together for the promotion of the community, instead of passively opposing progressive movements, it may not mean personal commendation.

The factor of location has been an important item also in contributing to our growth. Georgetown is admirably situated as a manufacturing point, being in the centre of a vast productive area with consuming and distributing points all around. Georgetown might be called the "cross-roads" of the province, as it touches all parts of the province and connects up with all the provinces of the Dominion.

Georgetown is situated in the County of Halton, 29 miles from Toronto, 31 miles from Hamilton, 22 miles from Guelph, and 50 miles from Barrie. It will be seen, therefore, how its location makes it a convenient shipping point for its numerous manufactured products. Credit Valley has a Dominion-wide fame as a rich and productive part of the Province of Ontario. Georgetown is really in the Credit Valley, though it is a rather small branch of the Credit River which passes through the village. The river is large enough, however, to form a picturesque little lake as it perambulates through the municipality. Just on the outskirts of the village, however, the Credit River passes over more rugged and uneven ground, and a fall is obtained which has been harnessed to drive the factories and mills which man has built, chief of which is the Harbor Paper Mills, one of our largest manufacturing institutions.

If we proceed a little further up the river we shall find two other busy factories in the pretty village of Glen Williams—which in a sense may be said to form part of Georgetown, since it is only about one and one-half miles distant.

Then if we proceed a mile or so west we come to two more busy industries—the Fleming and Logan Stone Quarries, where the famous Credit Valley Sandstone is obtained. A few miles northward we find the Terra Cotta and Halton Brick companies plants, making millions of pressed bricks yearly.



TOWN HALL, GEORGETOWN

Let us enumerate here the names of the splendid industries in and close to Georgetown:
The Harbor Paper Mills.
The Harbor Coated Paper Mills.
The Georgetown Coated Paper Mills.
The H. T. Arnold Glove Factory.
The Georgetown Foundry Co.
Creelman Bros', Knitting Machinery.
Harley-Kay Knitting Machine factory.



COUNCILLOR H. H. HEARTWELL

C. B. Dayfoot & Co., Shoe factory.
J. H. Mackenzie's Planing Mill.
Glen Woolen Mills.
Jos. Beaumont's Woollen and Glove Mill.
Fleming Quarries.
Logan Quarries.
Terra Cotta Brick Co.
Halton Brick Co.
Speight's Machine Shop.
The enumeration of these 16 live manufacturing concerns comprises a list of which, as was said above, we may well be pardonably proud and modestly boast.

Although so many industries, giving employment to hundreds of mechanics and operators are already in our midst, yet there is room for others, and the village is prepared to deal generously with manufacturers desiring to locate here.

A TOWN OF HOMES.
Georgetown is particularly attractive as a place of residence. It is most picturesque situated on the rising ground on both sides of the stream that flows like a ribbon through the village. Splendid views are obtained from many streets—views commanding a large area of the village. The number of handsome residences is very noteworthy, and new homes are being continually added. Yet there is room for hundreds of other homes—sites that are attractive and reasonable in cost.

There are many reasons why those looking for a home might turn their attention to Georgetown. One of the first questions asked might be as to its beauty and physical attractive-

ness. This has been partially answered, but it might be added that the summer verdure, the briny air, the high and rolling situation, make of this an exceedingly attractive place to live.

A question usually asked is, How are the educational opportunities in the village? The answer can be given with confidence that nowhere is the educational equipment better than here. We have a large, well-organized and efficiently managed High School, reflecting credit upon the village and upon its Board of Education. The Public School, which has just been enlarged, now provides ample accommodation, and is also a first-class institution in every particular. Persons looking for a place of residence where their children may receive both a good public and High School Education, cannot do better than come to Georgetown. In regard to churches, the village has designated "missions" to suit almost every sect or creed. A good public library affords a varied supply of reading matter to suit every taste.

Georgetown is in such close proximity to Toronto as to afford quick and frequent communication. A distance of only 29 miles, it is possible to visit the city, to attend concerts, lectures, theatres, etc., at a small cost.



COUNCILLOR L. E. FLECK

And speaking of transportation, it is encouraging to note that our present one company method of transportation will soon be supplemented by the opening of the Toronto and Hamilton Electric Railway from the Queen City through to Guelph, which will be very well served by the numerous daily trains of the Grand Trunk Railway, in its main line to Guelph and Western Ontario, and in its Hamilton to Millard line, both passing through the village. The advent of the electric road will provide a more frequent means of transportation, and also probably a less expensive means.

THE EARLY DAYS.

It is less than a hundred years since the first white settler to these parts aroused the curiosity of the younger members of the Indian tribes who roamed the forests and pitched their villages in the district about Georgetown. This vicinity must have been a popular stamping ground for the Red Man, in the early days, for relics of his life here are from time to time unearthed by the farmer's plow and the gardener's spade. These were the good old days for our Red brothers. But time passed, and the White race has dispossessed the Red of deep forests, and converted them into smiling fields and populous towns.

The following facts, relative to the early history of Georgetown, are taken from the atlas published in 1877 by Messrs. Walker & Miles, of Toronto.

The late Mr. George Kennedy and his family were the earliest settlers in the place; having come here in 1820. In 1837 there were only three families in the settlement, viz.: Marquis Goodenow, Sylvester Garrison, and George Kennedy. In that year the Barber Brothers settled in the place and started their woollen mills. The settlement at that time was generally known as "Hungry Hollow," but shortly afterwards was christened Georgetown, after its founder, Mr. George Kennedy. The first store opened in the place was opened by Mr. John Sumpton, who started in business in 1840.

In 1810 the Wesleyan Methodists opened a church, which endured till 1878, when it was replaced by one costing \$5,000. In 1845 the Congregationalists built a church, the first minister being Rev. Mr. King. The next church was the Methodist Episcopal, then came the Church of England. The village grew rapidly during the building of the Grand Trunk Railway in the early sixties, and in 1864, on De-

ember 19th, a bill of the County Council granted incorporation to the village, and since that time it has been under the village form of government, not yet having attained a sufficient population to put it into the town class.

Mr. James Young was the first Reeve of the Village. He held the position for one year, and was succeeded by Mr. Francis Harclay, who held the office for two years. Mr. John H. Barber followed, and sat in the Reeve's chair continuously until the close of 1874.

Edwards was Reeve in 1872 to 1873, the establishment of a High School in the village, and the opening of the village with a school. The Baptist Church was established here in 1869. A beautiful church with the lofty spire which stands to this day was erected through the munificence of Messrs. J. S. Hensley, R. F. Hensley, J. E. Dayfoot, George

Dayfoot and L. W. Goodenow. At that time the Baptist congregation numbered only 14.

St. George's Church (Anglican) had in 1877 a large frame church with a rectory adjoining. The Methodist Church of Canada, at the time of publication of the Atlas, had just completed the erection of a handsome brick church at a cost of \$1,000. The Atlas says, "The Town Hall is a rather shabby-looking frame

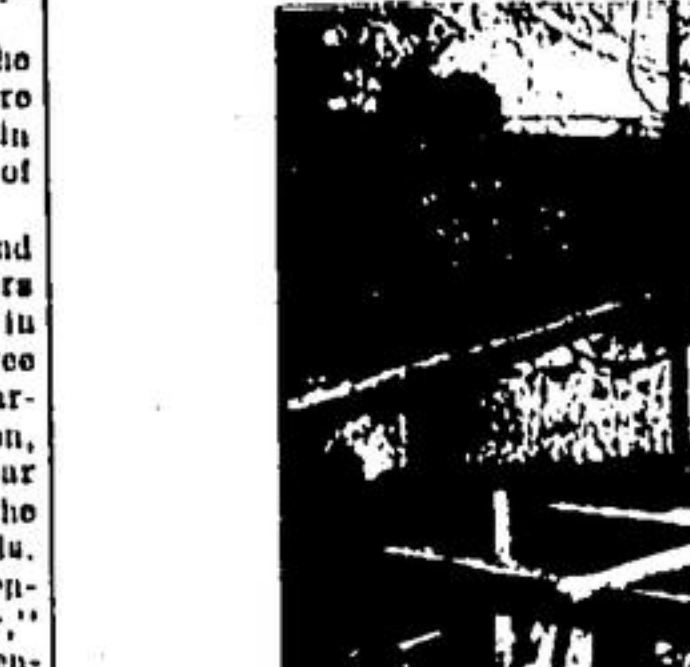


REEVE J. M. MOORE

building situated on Guelph street, with a lock-up in the lower story, used principally for lodging tramps." In December, 1875, an agency of the Bank of Hamilton was opened in the village, being the first bank in the County. Mr. Colquhoun, local manager, Mr. M. J. Bird built the first skating rink in 1876.

TOWN CLERK H. W. KENNEDY

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GEORGETOWN RESERVOIR

The Atlas above referred to has this interesting bit of information: "The hop industry in the vicinity of Georgetown is assuming large proportions, and the soil has proved very favorable to their growth. About 200 acres of hops were cultivated last year, and the general average is from 500 to 800 pounds to the acre." The names of 23 growers are given, having a combined acreage

of 184. The Atlas goes on: "The strawberry business here has to be a leading industry of this section. Already there are about 30 acres under crop. The average yield is about 5,000 quarts to the acre. The names of 100 large growers are given, with an acreage of 1,500 acres."

MUNICIPAL DATA

The assessment roll of 1913 for Georgetown has a population of 1,425. The total assessment of the village for 1913 was \$12,000. The tax rate for 1913 was 20¢ and 25¢ per \$100 of assessed value. The village has a waterworks system, which is a splendid waterworks system, costing \$10,000. Additions made since then have cost \$3,000. The water is obtained from Silver Creek Springs, 3 miles west of the town, and for domestic purposes is pure and wholesome. The water is brought to the village by gravity from a 400,000 gallon reservoir.

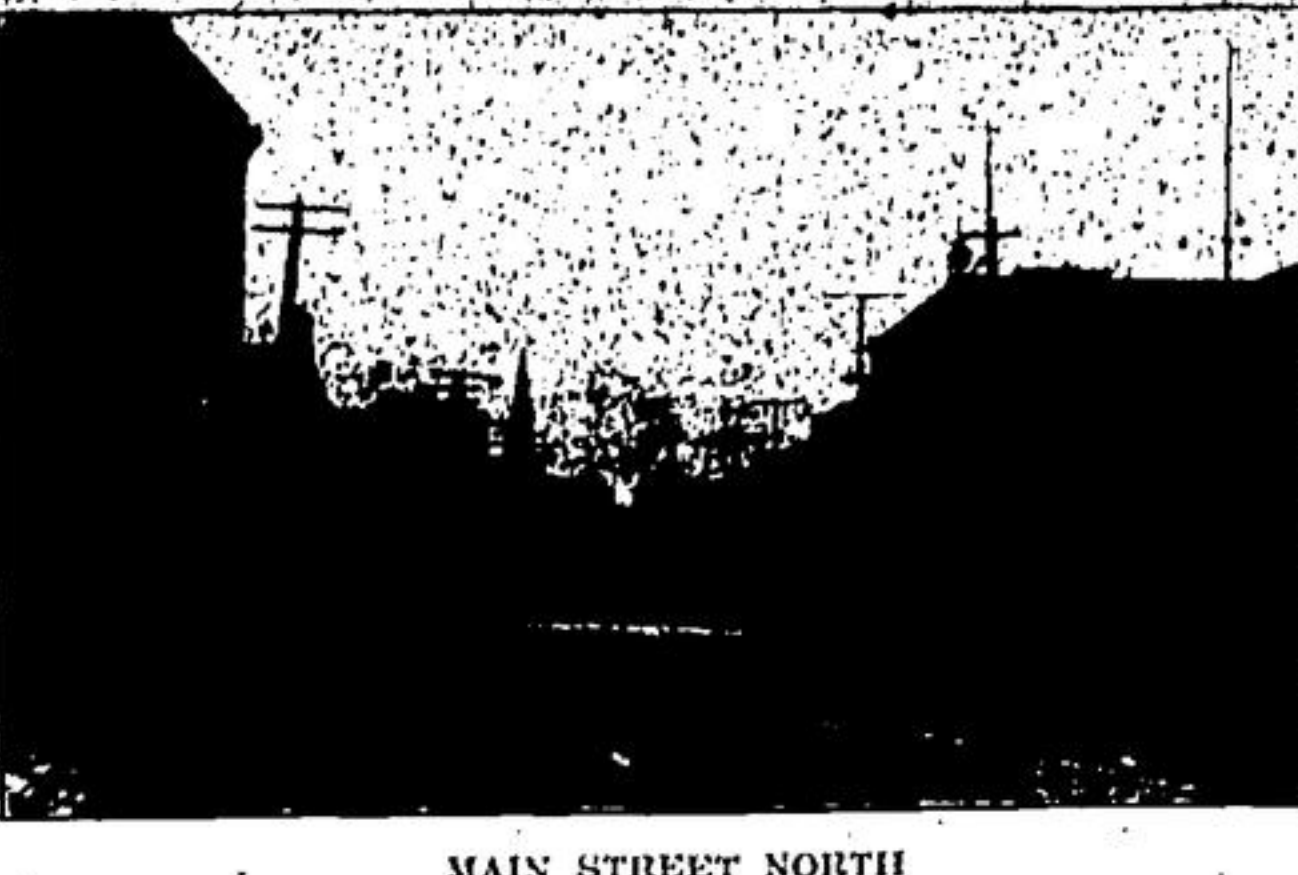
For fire purposes the pressure is from 70 to 90 lbs. to the square inch. There are 35 hydrants in use, 1500 feet of hose, two hose reels, a hook and ladder truck with a 60 foot extension ladder, and 25 gallon chemical fire extinguisher. There are two fire stations, one at the town hall and one near the G.T.R. station. The volunteer fire brigade of 35 men is an excellent one, men give loyal, prompt and effective service when danger threatens.

In the village there are approximately about six miles of cement sidewalk, which has cost about \$18,000. Here the total cost is charged up against the properties benefited, and paid for on the yearly installment plan, extending over the defructure period.

Electric power and light is produced from the Hydro-Electric system, and quite a few of the industries have introduced the power, while nearly everyone uses the light. Formerly the village was lighted by current procured from the plant of H. P. Lawson, of Glen Williams, Mr. Lawson having been bought out by the town in order to secure the Hydro power.

Georgetown is well served in the matter of stores and places of business. Practically every business in the village is represented by a "write-up" in the following pages, hence it is not necessary to refer to them further here.

As regards hotels, Georgetown has three, two of them on Main Street and one at the G. T. R. station. These are well-managed hostleries, where the public are well served. The Board of Trade of Georgetown is young as to years, having been organized two years ago; but it is a real live organization, which has the interests of the town at heart, and

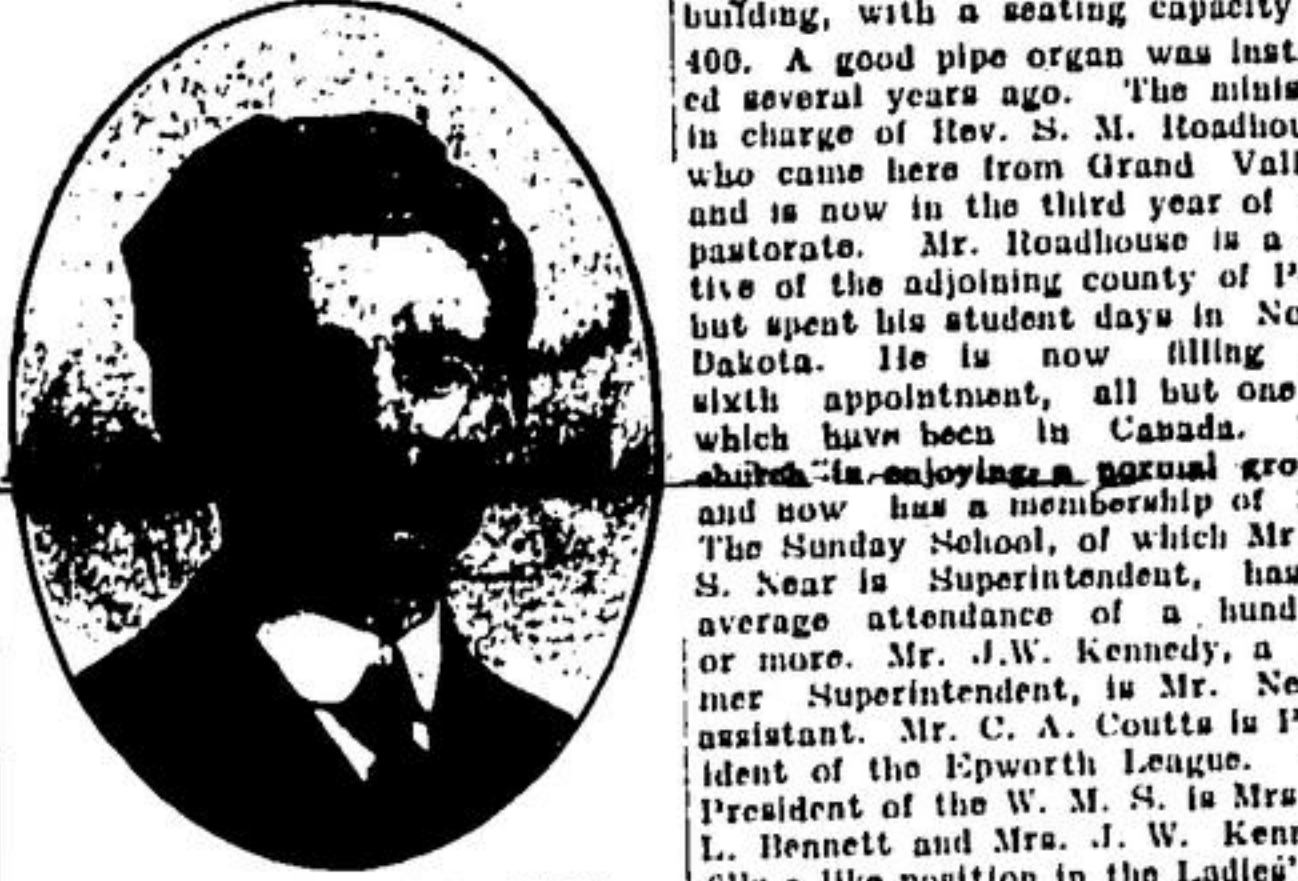


MAIN STREET NORTH

is actively seeking to advance those interests and to justify its existence

REEVES SINCE INCORPORATION.

- 1865—James Young.
- 1866—Francis Harclay.
- 1867-76—John H. Barber.
- 1877-8—D. McKenzie.
- 1879-81—Wm. McLeod.
- 1882—John H. Barber.
- 1883-8—Wm. McLeod.
- 1889—Wm. Freeman.
- 1890—G. H. Kennedy.
- 1891-3—D. McKenzie.
- 1894-6—Jas. Barber.
- 1897-8—W. H. Kars.
- 1899—H. W. Kennedy.
- 1900—F. J. Barber.
- 1901-2—A. W. Nixon.
- 1903-4—H. D. Warren.
- 1905-7—J. A. Willoughby.
- 1908-9—J. G. Harley.
- 1910—E. McCannah.
- 1911—L. Grant.
- 1912-13—J. M. Moore.



COUNCILLOR WM. BARBER

1913 COUNCIL.
Reeve—J. M. Moore.
L. E. Fleck.
Wm. Barber.
F. S. Near.
H. H. Heartwell.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The citizens of Georgetown are greatly indebted to the members of the Congregational Church for the present home of the Public Library. Time was when Congregationalism flourished in the village, and the splendid stone edifice, now the library's home, was erected for public worship. In the course of time the congregation diminished in numbers, and the services were discontinued. The Library needed a home, and the remaining members of the Church very generously made a gift of the handsome building to the village. This generous act will long remain a fragrant memory to the people of Georgetown.

The Library contains some 3,500 volumes, and is well patronized by the citizens. The members of the Library Board are as follows:

- H. W. Kennedy, Chairman.
- J. M. Moore.
- A. G. Green.
- H. D. Coutts.
- J. A. Willoughby.
- C. B. Dayfoot.
- R. D. Warren.
- Mrs. D. Smith is the capable librarian.

Some 200 new books have recently been added to the shelves.



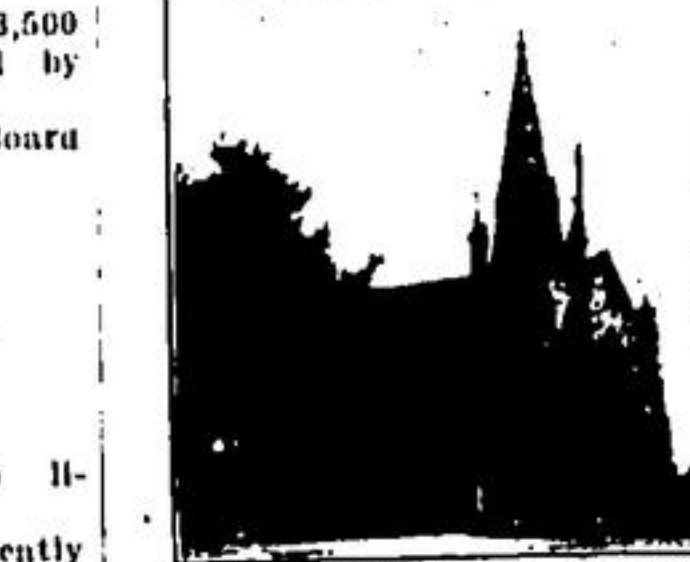
IRON BRIDGE OVER CREDIT RIVER, GEORGETOWN

THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The building now known as the Methodist Church was built in 1882 for the Methodist Episcopal congregation of the town. When the union of the different branches of Methodism was accomplished, in 1884, the combined congregation took possession of the M. E. Church, it being the best suited to the requirements of the occasion. It stands on ground that was deeded to the church trustees in 1816, and is a commodious building, with a seating capacity of 400. A good pipe organ was installed several years ago. The minister in charge of Rev. S. M. Roadhouse, who came here from Grand Valley, and is now in the third year of his pastorate. Mr. Roadhouse is a native of the adjoining county of Peel, but spent his student days in North Dakota. He is now filling his sixth appointment, all but one of which have been in Canada. The church is enjoying a normal growth and now has a membership of 350. The Sunday School, of which Mr. F. S. Near is Superintendent, has an average attendance of a hundred, or more. Mr. J. W. Kennedy, a former Superintendent, is Mr. Near's assistant. Mr. C. A. Coutts is President of the Epworth League. The President of the W. M. S. is Mrs. L. Bennett and Mrs. J. W. Kennedy fills a like position in the Ladies' Aid Society.



REV. S. M. ROADHOUSE



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH