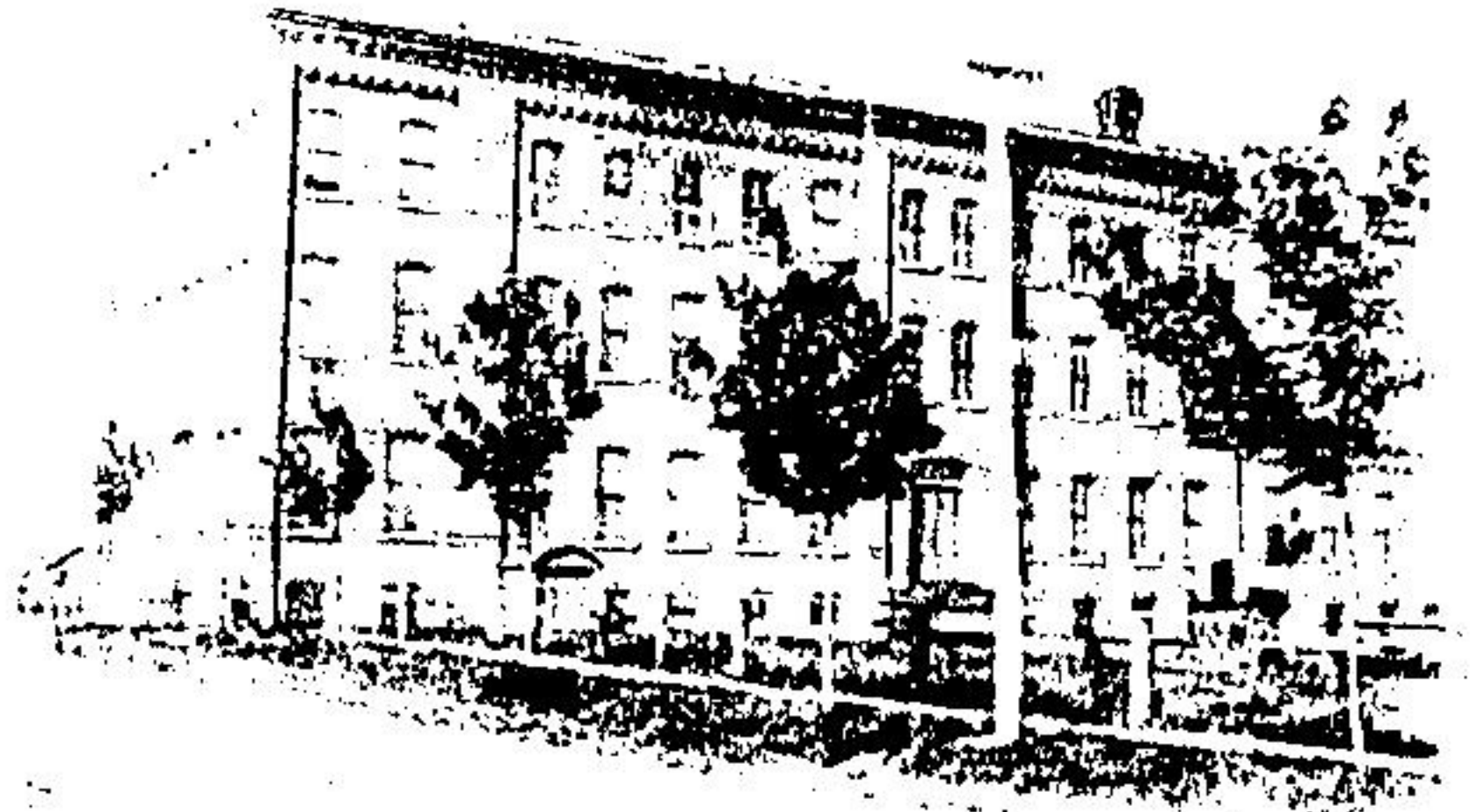




THE RESIDENCE of Member of Parliament David Henderson was built in 1835.



STOREY GLOVE company building on Bower Ave. employed hundreds over the years. Owner was the first reeve of the village.



MANY OF the photographs in this Centennial issue were taken by talented amateur photographer A. T. Brown, who operated this drug store on Mill St. for many years. The telephone exchange was also in Brown's drug store.



RUINS OF one of Acton's many frightening fires are shown in the foreground of this photograph, taken May 23, 1899. A. Stephen owned the destroyed house.



DOWN GOES the willow tree that gave Willow St. its name. Date is April 13, 1900 and it's the corner of Mill and Willow. The willows were planted in 1853 by William Steel. There were still board walks but the town here has street lights. On windy winter nights that light in the centre of the street would flip right upside down and shine up—instead of down. Hitching posts are shown, and the telephone and light poles were used for hitching, too. Life was leisurely.

JULY 2, 1878.

ACTON

For a number of years this village exhibited but comparatively slow progress in growth, and its business was done in an easy-going, old-fashioned style. Of late, however, a decided improvement in every way has been perceptible. Two years ago it was incorporated with a fairly sufficient number of inhabitants. Since then it has continued to grow and prosper in a better mode in keeping with the modernized ideas of younger manufacturing villages. Still there is an abundance of room for improvement, and we have faith to believe

that the impetus which has recently been given will continue to exert an influence that will carry it forward with very rapid strides. We hope to be able to record before another year that statistic of increase, both in population and manufacturing enterprise, has been not only greater than any of its local contemporaries but that its onward march has even outstripped many of the larger and more vigorous towns of the Province. We expect to do our humble share towards effecting this end. Business is now done on a better system than formerly, and our merchants of

today are energetic, enterprising men—thoroughly alive to the value of keeping such articles of merchandise as are required, and selling at such prices as to encourage an extensive trade. Our manufactures are of continually growing importance, and can even now vie with many towns of much greater pretensions. Indeed Acton is no longer an infant, she has thrown off her swaddling clothes, and commenced to walk alone. Very little coaxing and but few sugar plums are now required to assist her onward march.



CORNER OF Willow and Mill, after the old willow tree was cut down to make way for buildings. A farmer (right) makes use of hitching post. The Merchants' Bank is at the corner, Hunter's store next, and Beardmore Co-op next.