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Village Directory.

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ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH.—Service at 3 p.m., except the third Sunday of every month when the service and sacrament are held at 11 a.m. Sunday School at 1:30 p.m. Rev. R. Shankin, Rector.

METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA.—Services at 10:30 a.m., and 6:30 p.m., and Sunday school, 2:30 p.m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening, in the Lecture Room. Revs. Peter Addison and John Pickering, Pastors.

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THE HUMBER
AND ITS TRIBUTARIES.

Woodbridge, Past and Present Mills, Factories, &c.

The following is one of a series of papers read before the York Pioneers by Mr. William Watson, of Weston, one of the most prominent and respected members of the Association, and is a minute history of the County of York, especially the Western portion.

(PAPER No. 5.)

As near as can be at present ascertained it was about the year 1840 that the late John Brown built a blacksmith shop close to where Wallace Bros. flour mill now stands. The workmen in this shop were principally engaged in the manufacture of cow bells and logging chains. A few years after, however, Mr. Brown engaged in the repairing of machines, but used horse-power only to drive his machinery, until in 1849, when he erected a larger shop and commenced to utilize the water-power at his command, in making a few threshing and other machines. In 1854 he was joined by Mr. John Abell, and the new firm established a foundry. The partnership, however, existed only two years, but the place was rented to Mr. Abell for five years longer. The upper part of the large shop was occupied by Mr. Brigham Wilkinson (son-in-law of Mr. Brown) as a carriage and waggon shop, until about the year 1868, when John Brown, jr., Neil & Co., rent the whole shop. This firm, however, lasted only one year. For two years longer Mr. Brown occupied the place himself, using it as a machine shop and at the expiration of that time he was joined by Mr. Muir. In 1877 Mr. Muir retired from the business and in the following year the Wallace Bros. bought out the whole premises, turned the shop into a store house and built a flour mill adjoining it.

The flourishing village of Woodbridge was formerly called Burwick, after the late Mr. Rowland Burr, who may be said to have been its founder. He settled in the neighborhood in 1837, having exchanged a well-cleared and fertile 100 acre farm on Yonge street, for an uncleared, rough tract on the Humber, owned by Mr. Washington Peck, a cooper by trade. A number of labouring men moved in with Mr. Burr, most of whom managed to secure building lots in the village, then only in embryo. It is said that these lots were measured by Mr. Burr, whose mode of measurement consisted in taking so many steps in one direction and so many in another, stakes being driven into the ground to mark the corners. This will probably explain the irregular shape of the village lots. It has been said that if everyone in the village had exactly what his deed covers, some of them would be taking possession of their neighbor's houses. Many of the old inhabitants of Woodbridge retain an affectionate and grateful rememberance of "Rowland Burr."

It seems to have been a practice almost invariably followed by those building mills or factories on the Humber to first erect a saw mill, with which to cut lumber for other buildings. This plan, however, was departed from by Mr. Burr, who, in 1837, first erected a flour mill. In the following spring he built a saw mill and in the autumn a distillery and woollen factory. Of these buildings, the only one now remaining, as it originally stood, is the factory. It is only a small building, and in the early times did little but custom work. It is now occupied by Mr. Abell as a shoddy factory. The distillery has been removed to a distance and converted into two dwelling houses. Two years subsequent to the date last mentioned, Mr. Burr built another and much larger woollen factory a little farther down the stream. This factory has been operated at different times by a number of firms. First, Hoit & Burr, then by Self & Burr, and later by Mitchell & McNally. After lying idle for some time the whole property fell into the hands of the late John W Gamble, when the factory was again put into operation by Mr. W. McNelly, then by Mr. Duncan McIntosh, and afterwards by the Roe Bros. After Mr. Gamble's death, which occurred in 1874, the property was purchased by Mr. John Abell, who leased the factory to Mr. J. W. McIntosh (a brother of D. McIntosh). His son still occupies it, and is doing a good business. The flour mill and saw mill premises, referred to, were torn down soon after passing into Mr. Gamble's possession.

Mr. John Abell, to whose energy and enterprise Woodbridge in its present state of advancement and prosperity may be said to owe its existence, settled in the village in the year 1845. At first he went into partnership with Messrs. Wood & Etheridge, in the manufacture of waggons and carriages. This firm built the first omnibus that made regular trips between Woodbridge (then Burwick) and Toronto. Two years later Mr. Abell put up another small shop, where he did a small business in manufacturing mill iron, &c. It was here he made his first lathe, by the aid of which he constructed for himself, the first steam engine used in the township of Vaughan. It is still in Mr. Abell's possession, and is viewed by many with interest. In January, 1862, Mr. Abell commenced work in his new agricultural implement factory, (erected on the sight which it now occupies) with a force of about twenty men. As the business continued to increase additional buildings were erected and a larger number of men employed. In 1874, when the establishment was entirely destroyed by fire, Mr. Abell had 100 men engaged. The burning was the work of burglars, who entered the office, then in the same building with the works, blew open the safe, set fire to the place and carried off $93,000 worth of papers, $60,000 of this was collected, the remaining $33,000 being entirely lost. There being no insurance on either the buildings of machinery, the entire loss to Mr. Abell by this conflagration has been estimated at $220,000. In two months time the manufactory was rebuilt and in running order, employing a larger number of men then before.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Mr. Ross' Bill.

"An Act to Bulldoze the Liberal Party of Canada.

A clever and Apt Satire.—The Measure Proposes what Sir. John's Bill Aims at.

In the course of his speech on Wednesday afternoon, May the 10th Mr Ross (Middlesex) proposed to Sir John Macdonald an alternative Bill for the one introduced by him entitled. "An Act to Bulldoze the Liberal Party of Ontario and for other purposes," as it truly represents the real purport of Sir John's Bill. The Bill is as follows:—

"An Act to Bulldoze the Liberal Party and for other purposes.

"WHEREAS, by the census of the year of our Lord 1881, and in accordance with the British North America Act of 1867, the Province of Ontario is entitled to four additional members in the House of Commons; and

"WHEREAS it is desirable to secure if possible, the defeat of the Liberal Party of Canada and the return to power for the next five years of the present Government; and

"WHEREAS public opinion has been seriously affected by the large increase of the public expenditure, the railway and commercial monopolies created through the policy of the Conservative party, the exodus from Canada to thousands of her best sons, and the interference with Provincial rights, particularly with the rights of the Province of Ontario: and

"WHEREAS it is desirable that the Conservative party should not be bound by the declarations of its leader in 1872 that the municipal county lines should be respected in the readjustment of electoral districts;

"THEREFORE Sir John Macdonald, by and with the advice of party wire-pullers and Tory deputations from the Province of Ontario, and with the connivance of Tories from the other Provinces enacts as follows,—

"1. The House of commons shall consist of 211 members, of whom a majority belong to the Conservative party.

"2. That several members of Parliament during the last four years have loyally supported the present Government at a great sacrifice to their own conscientious conviction of duty and at the peril of their political lives.

"3. That it is alleged by the members foresaid to wit, the members representing the electoral districts of South Lambton, Cornwall, South Grey, North Huron, North Middlesex, East Middlesex, Monck, Lincoln, South Norfolk, Centre Wellington, North Wellington, East York, North York, North Simcoe, South Bruce, East Elgin and Kent, that their constituents are very much dissatisfied with many of the votes given by the members aforesaid during the said period of time; that the various gifts bestowed on the said constituencies, to wit, the post office in St. Thomas, $25,000; post office, Stratford, $28,500; do., Chatham, $28,000; do., St. Catharines, $31,500; do., Cornwall, $28,000, have not fully appeased the clamour against the members aforesaid, therefore it is expedient so to re-adjust the constituents of the said members as to prevent them being driven from public life, and their vote and influence lost to the Conservative party.

"4. That several members of the Liberal party represent constituencies that cannot be re-adjusted; that in divers cases by aggregating the Liberals of two or three constituencies to other, after the process recently presented known as 'hiving', certain adjacent electoral districts can be rendered more secure for the Conservative party; that in several electoral districts, to wit, the electoral districts of North Lanark, Muskoka, North Ontario, South Ontario, South Wentworth, East York, North York, South Perth, North Bruce, South Brant, West Middlesex, Bothwell, South Norfolk, there can be made such a readjustment of the Liberal vote as to weaken the Liberal candidates in such constituencies; that no loss would accrue to the Conservative party from the absence of the members representing said constituencies from the House of Commons; it is expedient therefore to readjust the electoral districts aforesaid in such a way as to prevent the election of the Liberal members in each and all of the said electoral districts.

"6 That the appointment of returning-officers is a political gift: that all such appointments should be made in the interests of the party; that there is great danger lest the well known social standing of sheriffs and registrars should interfere with the liberty of action when political exigencies sometimes require; it is expedient therefore, to repeal section 1 of the Dominion Election Act of 1878, thus leaving the Government free to select such returning-officers as in their opinion would best serve party interests.

"7. The various schedules to this act amended marked respectively from 1 to 54, contain the true boundaries of the electoral districts of Ontario under the provision of this Act."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

East York.

A meeting called in the interest of Mr. Boultbee was held at Thornhill, on Tuesday evening, May 9th., a majority of those present, however, being Reformers. Mr. Langstaff presided. Mr. Boultbee first spoke, giving his campaign speech of 1878 on the National Policy. Mr. Thos. Hodgins, Q. C., followed with an exhaustive and eloquent speech upon the National Policy, the Boundary Award and the Streams and Redistribution Bills. Mr. Boultbee then spoke for the Tory cause, and in the course of his remarks, speaking of the Boundary Award, said it was mean for Ontario to want to rob the other Provinces of their territory. After Mr. Joseph Tait had replied, Mr. Boultbee withdrew Mr. Hodgson, one of his speakers, to allow Mr. A. F. Jury to speak, who then made an excellent address, showing how the National Policy discriminated against the working classes. Mr. Boultbee then called upon Mr. Hodgson, whom he had previously withdrawn from his list of speakers, to reply. Mr. Boultbee then spoke, and in the course of his remarks was corrected several times by Mr. Badgerow in matters relating to the population of the counties, and by Mr. Hodgins upon matters relating to the Boundary Award. Mr. Boultbee lost his temper upon thus being set aright, and said that if he had known he was going to get into such a hot place he would not have left his parliamentary duties. In his first speech also he lost his temper upon being pressed by one of his own supporters to give a reason why the Government did not protect fine wools. The meeting then came to a close.

CANADIAN.

Sir Alex. T. Galt arrived at New York on Saturday from England.

Mr. J. A. Kilroy, of Windsor, was Monday nominated Reform candidate for North Essex.

The principal portion of the village of Danville, P. Q., was destroyed by fire on Monday morning.

The distribution of the Ontario statutes of the late session was commenced at the office of the Queen's Printer on Monday.

The Privy Council have awarded $20,000 to Mr. Doutre for services as Canadian counsel in the Fishery Award case.

Supplementary estimates, to the amount of eighty thousand dollars, for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1883, were brought down in the House of Commons on Monday.

The Norquay Government finding that defeat was inevitable if they persisted with the Railway Bill in the Manitoba Local Legislature, withdrew on Monday. The Premier will, it is said, reintroduce the Bill in a greatly modified form, but nothing short of absolute control of railway matters in the Province will satisfy Manitobans.

Enthusiastic meetings were held on Saturday in various constituencies. In North Ontario Mr. Cockburn was unanimously nominated amid great enthusiasm. Mr. W. Kerr, Q. C., was tendered and accepted the nomination in West Northumberland. Mr. J. B. Charleson will contest the united counties of Richmond and Wolfe in the Reform interest. The Liberals of Montreal are also moving and a meeting will shortly be held to nominate candidates.

FOREIGN.

Panama is again threatened with a revolution.

Agrarian disturbances in Dunaberg, Russia, have necessitated the presence of troops.

Fifty-seven of the crew of the Turkish transport recently lost in the Bosphorus perished by the disaster.

The Bolivian Foreign Office in a manifesto declares that Bolivia will never accede to the cession of territory to Chili.

Smallpox is epidemic in Panama. A large number of employees on the canal are reported sick. Numerous deaths have occurred.

Frightful barbarities have been perpetrated upon the Jews at Odessa by Cossacks, who mutilated them and then poured petroleum in their wounds.

Military conflict in Egypt is imminent. Five men-of-war have been sighted at Alexandria, and instructions have been sent to prevent—by force if necessary—their entrance into the harbour.

For the moment the Khedive of Egypt appears to be master of the situation, although Arabi Bey still remains in power. The English and French Governments have agreed on a plan of action, and have ordered their squadrons to Alexandria.

UNITED STATES.

It is reported that a valuable oil strike has been made in Clarion county, Pa.

Mason, it is understood, will be released immediately after Guiteau is hanged, if not before.

The United States Senate Committee on Woman's suffrage has reported in favour of its adoption.

A new claimant to the Tichborne estate, living in California, has been recognized, it is said, by three old servants of the Tichborne family, as the veritable Sir Roger.

William Richards, arrested at Waterbury, Conn., for the murder of Joseph Jackson, a brother immigrant, at Sutton, Que., last July, has confessed. He will be extradited for trial.

Dynamite outrages are becoming frequent in the United States. An obnoxious saloon was blown up at Palestine, Ind., on Saturday, and a bomb exploded in the streets of Rochester, N. Y., on Sunday.

The American Counsel at Prescott recommends to the United States Government an import duty of one cent per dozen on eggs and $1 per ton on straw and hay, together with duties on fence posts, railroad ties, &c.

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