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[Single copies, 3 cts

VOL. XI.

RICHMOND HILL, THURSDAY, JAN. 24, 1889.

No. 28.

"The Tiberal"

IS PUBLISHED EVERY

THURSDAY MORNING

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to \$1.50. The \$1.50 one has Good accommodation for the travelling public. a body and is usually sold at Address

EATON

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Our Hotels.

To the Editor of THE LIBERAL

Perhaps there are but few institutions established in a civilized community more popular and really more necessary to that community than a commodious and welfthe mechanic, as they go abroad for business, to the agent and the commercial traveller, the man of work and the man of pleasure, to the poor man and to the millionaire, a comfortable hotel is a necessary and attractive stopping place. And the pleasant smile of a cheery landlord, the attentive hostler, the accommodating waiters and the air of welcome which surrounds such a place, stimulates a traveller in his anxiety to get there. If there is no place like home, a good hotel is next to it, and were it not for the deliterious articles sold there they would be safe as well as attractive resorts to the man of business and to the man of leisure.

As soon as Yonge street became passable for vehicles the necessity to the travelling public for half-way houses became apparent, and there were plenty along the line of travel who were ready to keep open house for rest and shelter to | depots" of those days, where markets,

man and beast. The first hotel, or rather combination of hotel and commercial house in our village, was opened up by our old friend. Mr. Abuer Miles, in 1802, on lot 45 Markham. The owner died in 1806, when, from a public, it became a private residence. The next was built by Col. David Bridgford, a hero of 1812, on lot 47, mar where the Temperance Hall now stands. This house was a resort for military gentlemen and early tourists to and no between the lakes, and it disappeared as a public institution when its owner, of whom we have spoken more

large'y in previous letters, retired to

agricultural pursuits

Another old land mark, which has now disappeared, was a hotel built where the brick tenement stands at the south end of our village. It was the first frame building erected in our village and tenanted when this century was in it's infancy. It was a lar e-sized building, and, with space on the fr ut. To this hotel the exhum d body of the unredered Nancy | Montgomery, or whom a detailed account in the Kinnear tragedy was given in the LIBERAL, was brought for a post mortem examination, a sight never-to-be-forgot-This hotel has been the scene of pretty | Toronto, Canada. lively times. Up to 1850 Yonge street nad not been Macadamized further north tian what was known as Lymburner's Corners, a mile and a quarter south of onr village. A Government grant then gave it a start toward consummation. In its construction a large number of men were employed, and many of these, navvies of various nationalities, boarded at this hotel. The drinking and fighting was something extraordinary. The men were paid their wages on Saturday afternoons and the most of it was spent in a general caronsal on Saturday night and Sundays. The road ran so close to the building that it taid bare the foundation, necessitating a platform, six-feet in height, all along the front. Over that platform has reeled many a drunken man, and injuries have been received which resulted in death As the stoning of the road proceeded north, our village still continued to be the place of gathering for pay-bosses and men until it became a saturnalia. Of all the landlords of this hotel, out of immense recerpts, none ever made a fortune, very few a competence, and many fell a prey to their own imprudence and died bankrupt in pocket, body and soul. The old building went down before the fire field in 1871, it was supposed by the hand of an incendiary.

If those walls had left behind them an autobiography of what they had witnessed during fitty years of their existence 't would have revealed some startling facts that would have thrown fiction into the

Seventy-five years ago, the site now occupied by the large and commodious bailding, with all its well-devised conveniences for the comfort of the travelling public, called the Palmer House, was a vacant spot known as the (public lot), owned by Mr. James Miles, and intended for church purposes. The first building erected on the lot was the third botel, and dates back to almost the beginning of the century. It was built and owned by Mr. John Clark, who ran the distillery on lot 43, built in 1811. We may suppose that when the landlord of the hotel ran the supply department that his customers got the "stuff" pure and unadulterated, and minus the poisonous improvements of modern days. An honest landlord in this hotel, of a later date, was asked by a tairsty caller 'If he had gay good white ! key." 'No !" he replied. "There is uld Toronto. - Ont. such a thing as good whiskey; but we

have some of the best that is going." This house has changed hands more frequently than any other hotel in the village, but in it there has been an interrupted succession of landlords for seventy years, one of whom had been the unfortunate tenant of Montgomery's Hotel when it was made too hot for its occupants in the rebellion of 1837. This, like all the original hotels in our village, was built with the old-fashioned fire-place, with its capacious chimneys, wide-brick kept hotel. To the farmer, the merchant, | jams and broad, stone hearth. Wood was then a superfluity, and the prodigality with which those huge logs were heaped on the fire, would be considered serious extravagance now a-days. The landlord, auxious to please, would, as an encouragement to each new arrival, with his long iron poker give an extra poke to the back-log and look with self satisfaction on the great blaze, as it roared and sparkled up the throat of the wide chimney, illuminating the "bar" and its rows of glittering glass and polished pewter with an inviting brilliancy, until the tallow-dip, the only "light of other days" would pale to a modest glimmer in the presence of a radiance superior to its own. The daily newspaper was then a household luxury enjoyed, but by a few-the receipt of the latest news depended on "interviewing" the latest passing traveller, so these cheery public fire places were the "news events past and passing, were discussed each evening, interspersed with persona! experience of "roughing it in the bush" by the neighbors, illustrated occasionally by "tales from my landlord."

The original building underwent many changes, hazing been rebuilt, retitted and finally removed to make way for its present handsome, well-turnished and commodious successor. The tine structure, the Lorne block, and its places of business, the fire hall, the council chamber and the court of justice, is a vast improvement on the old, long driving-shed and rainous-looking buildings that formerly disgraced the front. Wealth and good taste are wonderful revolutionizers and dilapidated old-timers have to clear the track to make way for modern improvements.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

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