

Christmas Time

Our Groceries, Fruits, etc. are of the very best quality. RAISINS—Sun-dried Seedless and Seeded. Bulk raisins at 2 lbs. for 25c. CURRANTS—In great varieties, fresh stock. Figs, Dates, Peels, Walnuts, Almonds—all fresh. ORANGES—30c, 40c, and 50c a doz. GRAPEFRUIT—2 for 25c.

Our China Dept.

Is complete with a stock of Christmas presents. You should see the assortment.

Flour and Feed.

We can supply your needs in Flour and Feed. Complete in all lines. Gold Leaf Flour, our specialty, \$3.75 per cwt. Also other lines of flour of the best grade.

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All kinds of WOOD for sale at reasonable prices

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What About a Christmas Dinner?

At this time of the year a person appreciates a Chicken Dinner.

We can supply you with all kinds of POULTRY for Christmas that will make it worth while. Plump in appearance and delicious at any time. Order early.

This is a good season for Sausage Spare Ribs Tenderloins Hamburg Steak Frankfurts Headcheese

Visit our store and see what we have to offer you.

CONLON BROS.

Meat Market

Next door to Farmer & Son.

No need of making a Christmas cake when you can buy a nice, rich

Christmas Cake

One that is carefully made and embodies all the good things that go towards making a good Christmas cake.

Many cakes have been made here for the local boys overseas, and we are now ready to make your Christmas cake.

Leave your order early Christmas Fruits, Candles and Nuts.

Mrs. J. Laurie

Bakery and Confectionery

Gore street, Perth.

The Centennial of the Perth Settlement

The Beginnings, the Conditions, and the Progress

A hundred years ago last spring the band of settlers from the Scottish Lowlands, who had subsisted the previous year at Brockville on what rations the Home Government had supplied them, began to arrive on the banks of the Tay—until then called "Pike River"—and to take stock of their surroundings. The prospect to them could not have been inviting. Before and around them stretched the illimitable forest growth of spruce, maple, elm, oak, beech, hemlock, spruce etc., in all their massive and confused growth. The Perth district was one where all these trees grew in massive luxuriance, and how to fell them and to clean the land for agricultural purposes must have been a problem to these sons and daughters of the cities and towns of the south of Scotland.

with such favorable reports, that in 1815 a large number of families left Scotland and settled in 1816 in what is now called the "Scotch Line," situated in the 1st concession of Bathurst, 10th of Burgass, forming as it were, a little trans-Atlantic Scotland, a peaceful, thrifty, and industrious community, who, in after years, by their own handiwork, and almost unassisted, built up for themselves and their posterity the intelligence of those pioneers. They even in the wilderness in which they had cast their lots never lost sight of the importance of educating those who were to fill their places when they had gone to their long homes; so in the same year, the Earl of Bathurst, under whose auspices, if your correspondent is not mistaken, the settlement was founded, sent out one John Halliday, a dominie well versed in the learning of the age, and under his regime the future colonists grew up to be what they are still, shrewd well informed men and women. Perth, which derived its name from the city in the Land of cakes, is situated on the banks of the River Tay, which empties itself into the Rideau Lake, a few miles from the town. The first thing that strikes a stranger visiting the place is the substantial character of its buildings and the regularity and well kept appearance of the streets, the lawns and the gardens, the old ordinance when the town was laid out in lot in the early part of the present century, being adhered to.

The Private Dwellings and Stores are for the most part constructed of free stone, which is obtained close to the town, and is of a fine white quality, conveying an impression of durability and cleanliness not often noticed in towns of its size. Brick has also been most extensively used in building operations, frame dwellings being almost the exception, and not the rule, as it is almost everywhere else. There is an entire absence of the appearance of "an old worn out town," as it has been called by those interested in detracting from its merits; on the contrary there is a staid, solid business air about it and its inhabitants, highly indicative of prosperity and wealth both of which it enjoys to a very large extent. Before speaking of the early history of the town itself it should be stated that the district immediately surrounding it is rich in mineral products, superphosphate of lime, beds of mica, plumbago of the finest quality, stone for building purposes and iron are to be found in quantities.

So much, then, for what Perth is now and what it may be in time to come. It was in the long ago, when trade and commerce were yet unborn and the only signs of civilization were the scantily cleared and sparsely planted patches of ground here and there, and the sound of the hardy settler's busy axe, as he toilfully Hewed out a Home in the Wilderness for himself, his wife and little ones. Hard times did these people see, and many were the privations they had to endure, but patience under difficulties in time to come, as in his reward, the present day, brought us this reward. One of the earliest of pioneers was Mr. Francis Allan, who arrived in 1816, and settled on the Scotch Line close to Perth, but the oldest inhabitant of the town proper, and who is now alive, a hale and hearty man of seventy-two years is Mr. John Manion, son of the late Sergt. Manion of the 49th Regiment, and who possesses a memory as green as one of his own anders, but to come, as in his reward, the present day, brought us this reward. One of the earliest of pioneers was Mr. Francis Allan, who arrived in 1816, and settled on the Scotch Line close to Perth, but the oldest inhabitant of the town proper, and who is now alive, a hale and hearty man of seventy-two years is Mr. John Manion, son of the late Sergt. Manion of the 49th Regiment, and who possesses a memory as green as one of his own anders, but to come, as in his reward, the present day, brought us this reward.

They Embarked in a ScoW owned by a man named Lindsay, thence down Rideau Lake and up the River Tay to Perth. Here was a Government storehouse, under the charge of Capt. Fowler, Capt. Gregg, having as a subaltern Mr. Davern and Mr. Alex. Matheson and Sergt. Campbell of the Glenargy Fencibles, as issuers of stores. The storehouse was on the southwest corner of one of the present bridges, where Spalding's brewery is now, and there on the 24th of each month, rations with necessary household and agricultural implements were issued to the settlers—males received per diem, one pound of pork and the same weight of flour—females half that amount, children of ten years and upwards, the same as females,

and under ten, one quarter rations. This arrangement was only to last until the settlers had got some land under cultivation, and was in some sort of position to help themselves. Before his advent, any small parcels of grain raised had to be ground in pepper mills, or boiled whole. About this time, too, the seed for the patches of ground cleared had to be carried on men's backs from the settlement behind Brockville, and a good portion of the provisions were taken into Perth in the same way. A good story is told apropos of the difficulties which the people in those days experienced in getting their grain ground at this mill; sometimes the miller was extremely dilatory about the operation, and required a great deal of coaxing to induce him to perform the work. One farmer named Haley had brought a couple of bushels of wheat on his back some six miles away from the settlement, having to walk through bush and mud, the latter in places knee deep, three times in order to get his flour, and on each occasion was unsuccessful. Some one who knew the miller well suggested that a hot mixture of whiskey would have the effect of hastening his movements, so Mr. Haley supplied himself with one. The miller saw him coming up the hill with the "cratur" under his arm, and forthwith called out to his men, "Haley's got next!" Haley had found out the soft spot in the man of flour's nature, and in future always went provided with the needful stimulant to his energies.

The Very Verge of Starvation. The crop of potatoes was destroyed by the frost, and the rest got into the wheat. Some families lived for three weeks on the wild leeks they found in the woods. An application was at last made to the Government for the issue of an additional half ration per head, which was granted, and the famine which was imminent was averted. Referring to the failure of the potato crop, Mr. Bell tells how his father offered one man two dollars per bushel for the potatoes in his plot, and he would do it for half. The man refused the offer, and a few days later, the frost came and killed all he had—so much for avarice. At this time Mr. Manion's father was working in a field logging, without the aid of axes, in the month of June, for four pounds of flour a day, all he had to support his family on, but this, says Mr. Manion, "was a God-send after being on leeks for nearly a month!" He added that he has hated that excellent but poor food, and would not have one in his soup on any consideration, but "he reckoned there were some Welshmen among them who thrived on the diet, but it was not strong enough for a North of Ireland stomach!" Timely assistance, and a patient waiting for better times, tided the settlers over their difficulties; the lane turned and the highway to prosperity was soon reached; the clearings became larger, the dwellings began to assume some semblance of comfort, crops were better year by year, and each spring saw fresh bands of settlers coming to Perth, and quite a large community was formed by degrees. While this was going on, the Capt. Adams before mentioned, gave up his tavern, and put up one of the

First Grist and Saw Mills on lot 20, in the 2nd concession of Perth, County of Lanark, and he soon began to drive brisk trade. The first store, an old Canadian one, well recall to recollection what the stores of those days were, was opened in 1816 by Mr. (afterwards the Hon.) Wm. Morris, father of Lieutenant-Governor Morris, of Manitoba, the latter subsequently partner of Mr. W. H. Radenhurst, the present respected Mayor of Perth. This store was on the south side of the River Tay, then unbridged, and there the town may be said to have started, though it has since grown altogether in a northerly direction. A ferry was then used to ply across the river, and cattle when moved from the north to the south side, and of course, vice versa, had to swim the stream. The next store was established by Benjamin Delle, an ex-captain in the Canadian Fencibles, who came to the settlement in July or August, 1816. His store, which is still standing, was also on the south side of the Tay, near where the English church now stands. Mr. Delle, after doing business there for some years, removed to Montreal, and died not very long ago. Others came in their turn, and the place began to be in some measure independent of other markets at a distance. As the settlement grew, of course someone was wanted to look after their spiritual welfare, and then came

The First Protestant Clergyman, in the person of Rev. William Bell, a Scotchman, who was called to Mr. James Bell, the present Registrar of the County. He had his church, which has been burnt down, in the south-east portion of the town. He ministered faithfully to his flock for many years, and was highly esteemed by the members of all creeds as being a thoroughly good man. In 1820 came the Rev. Michael Harris, an Episcopal clergyman, and co-temporary with him was the Rev. F. W. Latotte, the first Roman Catholic priest. Both these gentlemen's memory is still held in veneration by several of the old residents of Perth, who speak of them in unqualified terms of respect. Then, of course, the physical ailments of the settlers had to be attended to, and a Dr. Thom, formerly of the 41st Regiment, came among the people. The gallant, and no doubt learned doctor, must have been a gentleman of a practical turn of mind, or else the place would not have been so well supplied with medical help, and the doctor had not come in plentifully enough to please him, for he started a grist and saw mill on the site of the one now belonging to Mr. John G. Haggart, M. P. History does not go so far as to state whether the doctor had a lathe mill for the purpose of turning his own wooden legs, but probably that branch of industry was not sufficiently developed in Perth at that

side of the Tay. Mortality does not seem to have been large until the year 1832, when the cholera was the cause of some deaths among the settlers. The next band of emigrants to take up their abode in the township of Lanark were a number of Paisley weavers, whose descendants now form a great portion of the wealthy residents of the district. They all took up land and entered vigorously into farming pursuits. They were an industrious, law-abiding folk, adapting themselves easily to their new mode of life, and were soon a large and important item in the list of colonists. Despite the hardships which, perhaps from the extremely sudden transition from the ease of the loom and shuttle to that of the spade, axe and plough, they felt in a keener degree than their fellow settlers, they rapidly acquired wealth, and not a few of them have left to their posterity handsome dependencies.

Wild Animals, many of which man was not desirous of forming any close acquaintance with. Bears, wolves, wolverines, wild cats, etc., deer, partridge and other game were plentiful, but the prices given for the pelts scarcely paid for the means adopted for obtaining them, to say nothing of the trouble and risk; but, notwithstanding this, several of the settlers then eked out their scanty livelihood by the sale or barter of the spoils of the chase. A few years which were not remarkable for any event of importance passed over the heads of the settlers, who kept adding to their numbers people of all classes, creeds and nationalities. Prominent among those who went out to seek their fortunes in the wilds were Captain Marshall, Captain McMillan and Captain McKay, all of the Canadian Fencibles, which had been embodied for service for several years previously; Lieuts. Watson, O'Connor (of him more anon), and Monk Mason (afterwards recalled for service in the 24th Regiment), Blair, of the Glenargy Fencibles; Playfair, and Fraser, the Clerk of the Crown in Ottawa. Of these now none remain. Lieut. O'Connor, met with his death at the battle of justice at Brockville Gaol, in either 1821 or 1822. The circumstances were briefly as follows: O'Connor, who was a member of the Roman Catholic faith, had a servant named Porter, who was an infidel and scoffer at everything pertaining to religion. The two men had been to Brockville one day purchasing some provisions, and while in the town they drank enough rum (old rum was in its infancy in those days) to make them quarrelously drunk. On the way home they got into a religious argument, and in the course of it Porter applied a most offensive epithet to the name of the Virgin Mary. O'Connor's angry feelings were aroused at this, and he demanded that Porter should withdraw the expression he had made use of, but he persistently refused to do so. O'Connor said if he did not do so he would blow his brains out, but Porter laughed at him, and the wrangle continued until the reached O'Connor's house, when the Lieutenant went in doors, and almost immediately re-appearing with a loaded gun, which he presented at Porter, at the same time repeating his demand for a withdrawal of the expression. Porter still refused, and O'Connor, true to his threat, pulled the trigger, and the infidel fell a dead man. O'Connor was taken into custody, and was not able, but in its

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was built of brick, on the south side of the river, in 1821 or 1822, probably its erection extended over a portion of both years. The structure was afterwards burnt down, and the present one, a handsome free stone edifice, was put up in its stead. The first death recorded in the annals of Perth was that of the wife of Sergt. Wallesey Ritchie, of the 89th Regiment, in 1816, and her remains were interred in what is now the English cemetery, on the south

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was opened up in 1834 by Rogers & Thompson, Porter & Gemmel, Alex. & Henry Montgomery, James Flintoft and others, whose names your correspondent could not with any degree of accuracy ascertain. The lumber operations in the immediate vicinity of Perth were of a most extensive character, and the settlers then saw to their sorrow the amount of valuable timber which had been burnt by them when clearing their lots, and the thousands of dollars which had been literally thrown into the fire. However, they were not the kind of people to indulge in vain regrets, and not a few of them went into the business themselves and carried it on for some years successfully and profitably. The timber thus obtained was drawn to Brockville, there rafted, and went by the St. Lawrence river to Quebec; large quantities were also floated down the Tay to the Rideau river, and thence to Ottawa, en route also for Quebec. Staves and square oak for many years formed the staple of the trade. This business while it prospered in the District of Hants, was the means of bringing large numbers of men into the town, for by this time the settlement had grown to a size which entitled it to that designation, and stone houses following, the first one built (still extant) in 1823 by John Ferguson, a Highlander, who delighted in the patronymic of Graigdarrieh, began to be erected on all sides. Perth then commenced to be

of carrying on trade, increased in solidity and wealth, each year witnessing the opening of extensive stores. A distillery established by Henry Graham, an ex-Captain in the army during this period, formed an important item in the commerce of the place, and it at present boasts of one of the most perfect in the Dominion, that of Mr. J. A. McLaren, who manufactures Scotch whiskey equal to the best of Glenvald ever brewed in Scotland. Mr. Graham's distillery was situated on the west side of one of the bridges, and the latter is called Graham's bridge to this day. One of the early storekeepers was

who, when a boy in 1821, used to ferry passengers across the Mississippi River on the road to Lanark, and whose parents kept a public house or stopping place for the settlers of that district, close to the ferry. In after years Mr. Cameron kept a tavern and afterwards a general store where the extensive establishment of Messrs. A. McElhen Bros. is now. Subsequently he was in partnership with Mr. H. Glass, and carried on business on the present site of the Hick's Hotel. The construction of the Rideau Canal in 1825 did Perth an immense

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