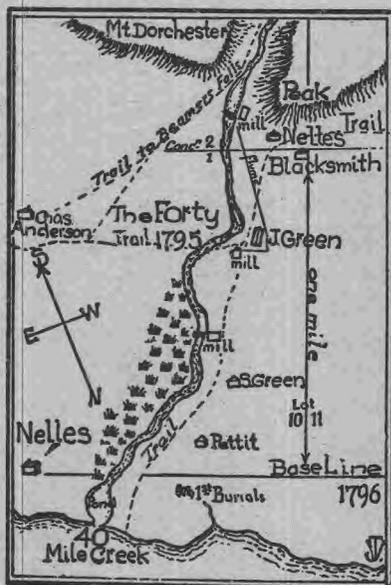


ANNALS OF THE FORTY

NO. 10

GRIMSBY — 1816-1876

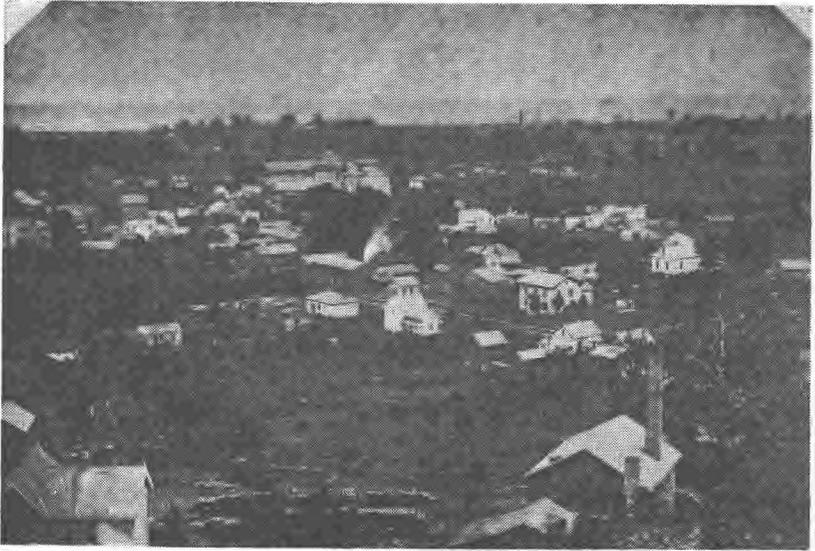


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Frontispiece—Grimsby village before 1879. Nelles Grist Mill in foreground. Mountain street, showing John Grout's house and his foundry on the north-east corner of Mountain and Elm streets where the Baptist Church stands today.

FOREWORD

Booklet No. 10 completes the Annals of The Forty Series. In No. 1 we recorded the background history of our district from 1783-1818. No. 2, "Fifty Years of Municipal Government" 1790-1840, was copied from the old minute book of the Grimsby Township Council—the first Municipal Government in Ontario. Numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9, "Loyalist and Pioneer Families of West Lincoln give the history of the first white settlers.

In this our last booklet we again return to the background history to record the events from the year 1816, at which time The Forty was renamed Grimsby, to 1876 when it was incorporated into a village.

Some of the history may be repeated in part as in describing the lives of our citizens we have told of their connection with the business, social and religious life of the community.

It was pointed out in the foreword of No. 1 Booklet that we would endeavor to turn back the pages of time and find something of the history of the people and places in this part of the Niagara Peninsula. If we have succeeded in doing so then the research and recording has been worth while.

Throughout the ten years in which the Grimsby Historical Society has published a booklet each year we have had the help and encouragement of the Archives at Ottawa and Toronto, the Ontario and other Historical Societies, historians in our own district and many people who have preserved early documents and shared them with us.

Now as we close the books, the contents of which may be described as a sentimental journey into the past, we would like to extend to all those who have made the journey possible our appreciation and sincere thanks.

R.J.P.

ANNALS OF THE FORTY 1816 — 1866

1816. In the years following the War of 1812-1814 there was a period of readjustment in our district. There had been casualties in the Lincoln Regiments, widows left without means of support, children orphaned, farms deserted—all the heartbreak so often repeated after a war of invasion. Yet such was the resourcefulness and determination of our citizens that by 1816 most of the places of business had been re-established, mills were again in operation, fields planted with grain, houses and barns repaired and fences mended.

1816. The name of The Forty changed to Grimsby and a post office established.

The exact date of the renaming of this early settlement has not been recorded in the Archives but historians claim that it was in this year that a post office was established here and it is believed that at this time the name Grimsby was chosen as a more suitable name with which to designate a post town. The first postmaster was William Crooks, miller and merchant, and the office was located in or near his house which stood on the rise of the hill on the west side of the Forty Mile Creek—then and for twenty years thereafter known as “Crooks’ Hill”.

1816. Election Year.

In this year two members from this district were chosen to contest the seat in the 1st Lincoln Riding of the Legislature of Upper Canada—the riding comprising the townships of Grimsby, Clinton, Gainsborough and Caistor. They were Col. Robert Nelles and Dr. Cyrus Sumner, both prominent citizens who had served with distinction in the War of 1812.

In these days when the people of Lincoln County go to the polls in thousands to cast secret ballots to elect the candidate of their choice it may interest readers to learn how elections were conducted a century and a half ago. First a Returning Officer was appointed by the Lieut. Governor:-

UPPER CANADA

By His Excellency Francis Gore Esquire
Lieut.-Governor of our said Province

To Abraham Nelles Esquire and to all whom these Present shall come—
GREETING—

Whereas His Majesty’s Royal Proclamation bearing date the

Eighteenth day of April in the Fifty Sixth Year of His Reign hath been issued dissolving the Provincial Parliament of the Province—and Whereas also His Majesty by Proclamation bearing date the nineteenth day of April following hath summoned a new Parliament to meet on the first day of June next ensuing the date after the said Proclamation AND WHEREAS by an act of this Province passed in the Forty Eighth year of His Present Majesty's Reign instituted an act for the better representation of the Commons of this Province in Parliament, and to repeal part of an act passed in the Fortieth year of His present Majesty's Reign, instituted an act for the more equal representation of the Commons of this Province in Parliament and for the better defining the Qualifications of electors, It is enacted and declared, that from and after the End of that Parliament the Townships of Grimsby, Clinton, Gainsborough and Caistor with so much of the County of Haldimand as lies between the Onondaga village and the Mouth of the River Ouse should be represented by One Member. And Whereas by another Act of the Province passed in the said Forty Eighth Year of His said Majesty's Reign instituted an Act to continue an act passed in the thirty third year of His Majesty's Reign instituted an act to provide for the Appointment of Returning Officers in the several Counties within this Province, The Governor, Lieut. Governor, or person administrating the Government for the time being is empowered from time to time to nominate and appoint by an instrument under his hand and seal at arms a proper person to execute the Office of Returning Officer for any County, Riding or Division or town within the Province. NOW KNOW YE that having confidence in the Loyalty, ability and integrity of You the said Abraham Nelles, I Francis Gore, Esquire Lieutenant Governor of the said Province by virtue of the Power so Vested in me as aforesaid have nominated and appointed and by these Presents do nominate and appoint you to be Returning Officer for the said Townships & — TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said Place trust and office of Returning Officer for during and until the said first day of June next or sooner determination of my pleasure respecting the same TOGETHER with all the Rights, Powers, Authorities Profits and Emoluments which the said Office do, or ought of right to belong and Appertain—

GIVEN under my hand and Seal at Arms at York, this twentieth day of April One thousand Eight Hundred and Sixteen and in the fifty sixth year of His Majesty's Reign—

(Signed)

Wm Jarvis Sc'y.

(Signed)

Francis Gore
Lt. Governor.

The above document was then followed by a letter setting the date of the election:—

SECRETARY OFFICE

York 23rd April 1816

Sir,

I have received it in Command from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor to direct that you hold the ensuing Elections at the Forty Mile Creek on the twentieth day of May—next, ensuing.

I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your most obed't Humble Servant
Wm. Jarvis Sct'y

To Abraham Nelles
Returning Officer for the
Townships of Grimsby, Clinton
& & &

Instructions for the Returning Officers of the Townships of
Grimsby, Clinton, Gainsborough & & &

As soon as conveniently may be after the receipt of the Writ and Warrant, the Returning Officer is to give Public Notice of the time and place when, and where he means to hold the Election, not giving less than Eight days, between the date of the Notice and the day of Election.

Choose One Knight Girt with a Sword

The Notice may be in the following Form.

WHEREAS His Majesty's Royal Proclamation hath been issued for the purpose of calling together a Legislature Council and House of Assembly for the Province of Upper Canada; and Whereas by a certain act of this Province Passed in the Forty-Eighth Year of His Present Majesty's Reign, Instituted an Act for the better Representation of the Commons of this Province in Parliament, and to repeal part of An Act passed in the Fortieth year of His Present Majesty's Reign, Instituted an Act for the more Equal representation of the Commons of this Province, and for the better Defining the Qualifications of Electors, It is declared and appointed, that the Grimsby, Clinton, Gainsborough & & & shall be represented in the said House of Assembly by

One Member.

And Whereas by a certain Instrument under the Sign Manual and Sealed with the Seal of His Excellency Francis Gore, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor of our Province of Upper Canada, I have been nominated and appointed Returning Officer for the said Townships and County.

And Whereas by a certain Writ under the Great Seal of the

Province of Upper Canada by me received, I am thereby directed to cause—**One Knight Girt with Sword**, the most fit and discreet to be freely and indifferently chosen to represent the said Townships and County & & in Assembly who shall be present at the day of Election, NOW KNOW YE, that by virtue of the said Nomination and appointment, and in Obedience to His Majesty's said Writ I shall at

on the day of next attend at ten o'clock in the forenoon, and proceed to the Election of One Knight to represent the said in the said House of Assembly, and hereof all Freeholders of the said Townships and County are to take Notice and attend accordingly.

N.B. As many of these Notices as may be conveniently disposed of should be fixed at Churches, Taverns, & &.

RETURNING OFFICER

At the day and place specified in the Notice, the Returning Officer is to attend, and having ordered Proclamation of silence to be made whilst His Majesty's Writ is published, the Writ is to be produced and read—a nomination of some Candidate is then usually made by some Freeholder, which nomination being seconded, the Candidate may if he thinks proper step forward and make an address to the Freeholders,—If there is no opposition, the Returning Officer is to declare that

is duly Elected; and the Indenture transmitted with the same, in both parts, one of them to be annexed to the Writ are to be executed by some four or five of the Freeholders, who are to sign and seal the same in both parts, one of them to be annexed to the Writ and returned with it, — If more than two Candidates are proposed the Returning Officer is to name them to the Freeholders in the order in which they are proposed, and is to call a show of Hands — If no opposition is made to this Declaration of the Returning Officer, he may declare such Candidate to be duly Elected — but if a Poll be demanded for any other Candidate by himself or any two Freeholders, the Returning Officer is bound to grant it, — if a contested Election is certain — the Returning Officer may Erect at the expense of the Candidates, such a Booth or convenient place, for taking the Poll as they shall require — and shall appoint Clerks to take the Poll who are to be paid by the Candidates — Before he proceeds to take the Poll he shall take and describe the following oath. —

"I — A.B. do solemnly Swear, that I have not directly or indirectly taken any sum or sums of Money, Office, Place, or Employment, Gratuity, or Reward, or any Bond, Bill or Note whatsoever, either by myself, or any other person to my use, benefit and advantage for making any Return at the Present Election of one or more Member or Members to serve in Parliament and that I will return such person

or persons, as shall to the best of my knowledge and judgment appear to me to have a majority of Legal Votes.

The Member or Members shall be chosen by the Majority of Votes of such person as shall be possessed for their own use and benefit, of Lands and Tenements with the said such Lands being by them holden in freehold or in fief or in Retour or by Certificate derived under the authority of the Governor in Council of the Province of Quebec, and being of the yearly value of Forty shillings sterling or upwards over and above all rents and charges payable out of, or in respect of same. If the Election shall not be determined on a view, with the consent of the freeholder's present, the Returning Officer shall proceed to take the Poll and shall not adjourn the Court to any other place, nor shall he delay the Election; but proceed from day to day until all the Freeholders then present shall have polled.

The Return to be made by Executing the Indentures as above mentioned.

Dated at York this twentieth day of
March One thousand Eight Hundred and
Sixteen.

(Signed) Wm. Jarvis
Secretary of the Province.

The above documents were preserved by descendants of Abraham Nelles, the Returning Officer for the election. It has not been recorded where a Booth was erected or in what convenient place the Poll was held but one may surmise that it was in the House or Inn of Robert Waddell in Grimsby as in 1816 the Grimsby Township Council meeting was held there.

The list of Electors was secured from the Ontario Archives:—
A List of the Electors who voted at the Election for the Townships of Grimsby, Clinton, Gainsborough, Caistor and as much of the County of Haldimand as lies between the Onondaga village and the Mouth of the River Ouse, from 20th May to the May, 1816.

Candidates Robert Nelles Esq. and Doctor Cyrus Sumner.

NAMES	TOWNSHIPS	Concs.	Lots	Nelles	Sumner	REMARKS
Matthias Simmerman Sr.	Clinton	2	22	1		
Philip Snider	Gainsborough	6	24	1		
Joseph Felker	Do.	5	28	1		
Joseph Snyder	Do.	6	23	1		
William Snyder	Do.	6	21	1		
Benajah Williams	Do.	6	8	1		

NAMES	TOWNSHIPS	Concs.	Lots	Nelles	Sumner	REMARKS
Peter Simmerman	Clinton	9	11	1		
John Kennedy Jr.	Gainsborough	6	5	1		
Lewis Felker	Do.	5	26	1		
Samuel Howey	Do.	1	8		1	
John Deen Junior	Do.	6	25	1		
Ahijah Chambers	Clinton	6	17	1		
Abraham Griffen	Gainsborough	6	31	1		North End
John Deen	Do.	6	25	1		
Peter Snyder	Do.	6	23	1		
Daniel Tallman	Clinton	8	22	1		
Philip House	Do.	4	12	1		
Daniel Howey	Caistor	1	11		1	
David Smith	Gainsborough	5	20	1		
Philip Deen	Grimsby	8	3	1		
Peter Tallman	Clinton	1	13	1		
Isaiah Griffen	Grimsby	8	5	1		
Joseph Adair	Clinton	3	19		1	
James Gillmore	Do.	3	16		1	
Smith Griffen	Grimsby	9	7		1	
John Felker	Gainsborough	5	30	1		
John House	Clinton	3	11	1		
Michael Wardle	Gainsborough	5	29	1		
John Beam	Clinton	3	24		1	
Alexander Lane	Gainsborough	6	13	1		
Richard Hill	Grimsby Gore			1		
Jonathan Gee	Gainsborough	6	8	1		
Hugh Willson	Grimsby	1	23	1		
Charles Moore	Do.	1	1	1		
Robert Nixon	Do.	2	13	1		
Henry Ort (Orth)	Clinton	4	5		1	
Adam Simmeman Sr.	Do.	9	15	1		
Samuel Kitchen	Grimsby	2	3		1	
Samuel Stafford	Clinton	3	14		1	
Robert Skelley	Do.	4	18	1		
Martin Boughner	Do.	5	18	1		
Jonathan Bell	Do.	3	23		1	
Lewis Beam	Grimsby	4	16	1		
Daniel Palmer	Do.	3	9		1	
Pierce Deen	Clinton	4	13		1	
Alexander Jackson	Grimsby	1	10		1	
Jacob Beam	Clinton	3	15		1	
Daniel Camp	Grimsby	7	12			No Deed
Adam Mingle	Gainsborough	6	22	1		
Thomas Shadwick	Clinton	8	22		1	
William Havens	Do.	7	19	1		
Caleb Travis	Caistor	7	6	1		
Moses Merritt	Grimsby	8	3	1		
Isaac Bell	Do.	3	6		1	
Joseph Gallino	Caistor	7	7			Leased Lot
Richard Killins	Do.	1	2	1		
Isaac Shaw	Do.	6	5			No Deed
Daniel McIntyre	Grimsby	D	22	1		
John Limeburner	Caistor	2	8	1		
John Henry	Clinton	3	4		1	
Jacob Fisher	Do.	2	22		1	

NAMES	TOWNSHIPS	Concs.	Lots	Nelles	Summer	REMARKS
Solomon Teeder (Teeter)	Do.	8	23	1		
Aaron Teeder	Grimsby	7	1	1		
John Terriberry	Do.	3	2		1	
Matthew Limeburner	Caistor	2	4	1		
Daniel Merritt	Grimsby	8	5	1		
John Frees	Clinton	10	1	1		
Elijah Merritt	Grimsby	8	5	1		
John Tufford	Do.	8	1	1		
Adam Conkle	Clinton	1	18	1		
George Book	Do.	2	10	1		
Andrew Hunter	Grimsby	1	19	1		
Ralph Walker	Grimsby	3	16		1	
James Millmine	Do.	3	18		1	
Abner Owen	Caistor	7	1		1	
Adam Dilts	Gainsborough	1	12	1		
John Causby	Do.	1	3	1		
Jacob Vaughn	Do.	1	10	1		
Henry Rott	Clinton	6	16	1		
Daniel Willcox	Grimsby Gore			1		
James Simmerman	Clinton	5	21	1		
John Lewis	Grimsby	2	20	1		
Peter Hare	Clinton	1	1	1		
William Bridgeman	Grimsby	9	15	1		
Joseph Merritt	Do. Gore		2	1		
George Thompson	Clinton	1	2	1		
Jacob Myre	Grimsby	9	6	1		
George Althouse	Do.	4	23	1		
John Harris	Do.	9	11	1		
Eli White	Do. Gore			1		
Townsend Lounsbury	Do. Gore			1		
Eldridge Rossel	Gainsborough	5	31		1	
William Lawrence	Grimsby	3	3	1		
John Ensley	Clinton	5	7		1	
Christian Everett	Do.	5	8		1	
Abraham Grob	Do.	3	7		1	
Christian Hontsbury	Do.	3	9		1	
Coonred Wiers	Do.	4	8		1	
Daniel House	Do.	2	18		1	
Michael Rittenhouse	Do.	3	5		1	
Samuel Corwine	Do.	3	17		1	
Thomas Waters	Do.	2	8		1	
Peter Marselles	Do.	1	22	1		
Henry Snyder	Gainsborough	6	18	1		
George House	Clinton	1	16	1		
William Mingle	Gainsborough	6	13	1		
Benjamin Willcox	Clinton	6	23	1		
Samuel Wismore	Do.	6	15	1		
Arnold Hagerman	Do.	7	14	1		
Edward Griffin	Grimsby	9	8	1		
Miles Hitchcock	Gainsborough	6	16	1		
Hux Roy	Do.	6	31	1		
William Taylor	Do.	6	19	1		
George Hansel	Do.	6	23	1		
Walter Clendennon	Do.	6	28	1		South End
John McIntyre	Clinton	3	13		1	

NAMES	TOWNSHIPS	Concs.	Lots	Nelles	Sumner	REMARKS
David Hagar	Do.	2	22		1	
Abel Stafford	Do.	4	12		1	
John Hawn	Do.	1	16	1		
Jacob Fisher Jr.	Gainsborough	5	24	1		
John Bush	Grimsby	7	R	1		
Benjamin Rossel	Gainsborough	5	35	1		
Robert Comfort	Do.	6	9	1		
John Comfort	Do.	6	1	1		
Charles Rossel	Do.	6	29	1		South End
Daniel McCollum	Do.	6	35	1		
Casper Springstead	Do.	6	9	1		
				89	35	
Adam Hutt	Grimsby	8	6	1		
John Shevelier	Do. Gore		1	1		
Stephen Roy	Gainsborough	5	31	1		
Arnold Awry	Do.	6	16	1		
Nathaniel Griffin	Grimsby Gore			1		
Coonrad Miller	Clinton	8	7	1		
Benjamin Nunn	Do.	8	8	1		
George Johnson	Do.	8	9	1		
William Vanatter Sr.	Grimsby	5	18	1		
Frederick Lampman	Do. Gore			1		
John Nixon	Grimsby	1	20	1		
William Nixon	Do.	2	13	1		
				101	35	

1816. As may be seen Col. Robert Nelles was the 'knight girt with sword' elected and he again took his seat in the Legislature at York (Toronto). Letters concerning affairs at home and the business of the community were written to him by his son, Henry. The first one was dated 20 February, 1816.

"Dear Father,

I should have wrote you last week but being very busy and nothing material to communicate I depended upon Mrs. N. to give you all the news.

There has nothing transpired since you left home worthy of notice. There has been a great deal of grain received into the mill and the mill has been kept going very steady with the exception of two or three days in that extreme cold weather. Water has fallen some, however there is enough for one Run of stones, which are kept running night and day. Philip Spain has been assisting in the mill the last week and wishes to know if you will employ him to assist. He makes very fair promises as to his not drinking and will take whatever you think fair wages. It will be necessary to have two in the mill this spring as the quantity of grain to grind will require the mill to be drove night and day and one miller cannot give every night, likewise the customers have great confidence in Spain's grinding. You must however do as you think best—please write me on the subject the first oppy as he wishes to know your determination.

If there is any probability of my receiving my Militia pay please

let me know and I will come over. And if you could find out from Mr. Rideout or any other person where there is a favorable spot to locate my land, I wish you would get the grant out of the office and locate it for me. Deen has given up the idea of going to the States, he is going to get saw logs and has given me all the cloth and books to collect. The families are all well and excuse my being in a hurry.

I am yours etc.
Henry Nelles."

It would appear that Robert Nelles decided to retain Philip Spain as one of the millers and that the latter did not keep his "fair promises". The Rev. Wm. Sampson's record book of burials contains the following item:— "January 25th, 1819 — Philip Spain (found drowned) Grimsby."

1816. In this year a log school house was built by subscription on Andrew Pettit's land opposite the Woolverton Mountain road (later straightened to its present location). John Oakley, a retired English army officer, was the first schoolmaster. Pupils in the west end of Grimsby township attended this schoolhouse—S.S. No. 3. At about the same time the name of Hugh McMahon, schoolmaster, appears in the annals of the district. It is believed that he taught in the schoolhouse east of the hamlet which, according to an old document, was situated near Charles Anderson's house. This would be on Lot 8 Conc. II on the south side of Main street near the present Robinson street. It may be interesting to readers to record the rules which governed the schools at this time.

Rules.

1. The Master to commence the labours of the day by a short prayer.
2. School to commence each day at nine o'clock of the forenoon and five hours at least to be taught during the day except on Saturday.
3. Diligence and emulation to be cherished and encouraged by rewards judiciously distributed, to consist of little pictures and books according to the age of the scholars.
4. Cleanliness and good order to be indispensable and corporal punishment seldom necessary, except for bad habits learned at home, lying, disobedience, obstinacy and perverseness, these sometimes require chastisement, but gentleness even in these cases would be better with most children.
5. All other offences in children arising chiefly from liveliness and inattention are better corrected by shame, such as gaudy caps, placing the culprits by themselves, not admitting any to play with them for a day or days, detaining them after school hours or during a play afternoon and by ridicule.
6. The Master must keep a regular catalogue of his scholars and mark every day they are absent.
7. The forenoon of Wednesday and Saturday to be set apart for religious instruction, to render it agreeable the school should be furnished with at least 10 copies of Barrow's questions on the New Testament and the teacher to have one copy of the key to these questions for his own use; the teacher should likewise have

a copy of Murray's 'Power of Religion on the Mind', Watkin's 'Scripture Biography', and 'Blair's class book'. The Saturday lessons of which are well calculated to impress religious feeling. These books are confined to no religious denomination and do not prevent the Master from teaching such Catechism as the parents of the children may adopt.

8. Every day to close with reading publicly a few verses from the New Testament, proceeding regularly through the gospels.
9. The afternoon of Wednesday and Saturday to be allowed for play.
10. A copy of the rules to be affixed in a conspicuous place in the school room and to be read publicly to the scholars every Monday morning by the teacher. (Niagara Spectator, Dec. 25th, 1817)

1816. A New Bridge across The Forty. To cost £25 - 15s. Halifax Currency.

There were three bridges across the Forty Creek and this Indenture does not make it clear where this particular bridge was built.

"Be it remembered that on the 10th day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, it is agreed between Abraham Nelles Esq. one of the Commissioners for the Branch Roads in the District of Niagara of the one part and Adam Smith Yeoman of the other part in manner and form following. To Wit—the said Adam Smith covenant with the said Nelles, that he shall and will by the first day of December next ensuing the above date, Build a Bridge across the Forty mile creek, where the old bridge now is—with good and sufficient Durable Timber, that is to say the Post to be 12 by 14 inches Square and the Girths the same, the Braces to be 6 by 8 inches square, the string pieces to be 10 by 12 inches square, the covering to be five inches thick, and a good hand rail four feet above the covering, to be 6 inches square with the upper corners taken off—the Bridge not to have less than three Bents with good mud Sills and six braces in each Bent, and to but a stone wall on the west side of the Creek which will answer for a Bent and on the east side of the said Creek to dig the bank so as to make a good foundation—the whole of the Timber to be square without sap, and the Bridge to be Built in a workmanlike manner eighteen feet wide after which work well and truly performed the said Abraham Nelles binds himself to pay the said Adam Smith the sum of twenty four pounds, fifteen shillings Halifax Currency for the above mentioned Bridge and for the true performance of all and every the Articles and Agreements above mentioned, the said parties do bind themselves each to the other in the penal sum of fifty pounds, lawful money of this Province—

In Witness whereof the said parties have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and date above within—

Witness present.
William Carpenter
William Nelles.

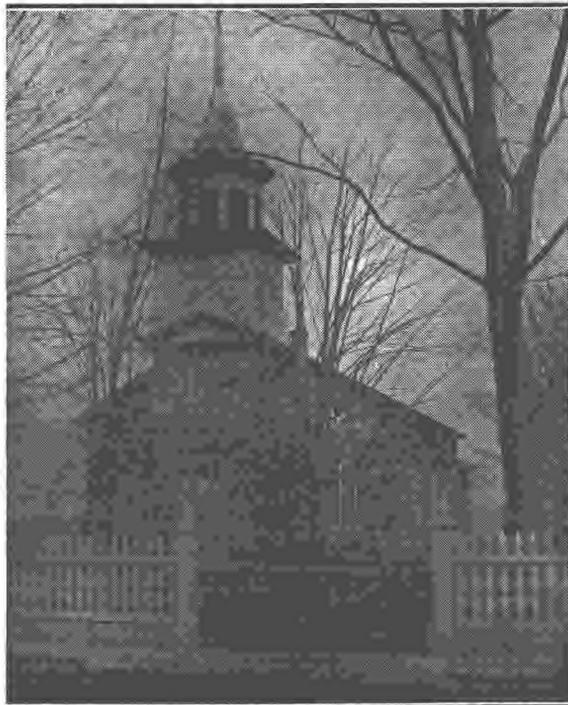
Signed (A. Nelles Commissioner
(Adam Smith

(The above document taken from 'Roads and Surveys'—Abraham Nelles Papers.)

1817: First Resident Missionary in Grimsby

In the spring of this year the Rev. William Sampson came from

England to Canada. Shortly after his arrival in Grimsby he met and fell in love with Maria Eliza, the young daughter of Col. and Mrs. Abraham Nelles of 'Lake Lodge'. The first record in his book of marriages (St. Andrew's) is his own when on 21st August the Rev. Addison of Niagara joined in the holy bonds of matrimony William Sampson, bachelor, and Maria Eliza Nelles, Spinster.



St. Andrew's Anglican Church. In building from 1818-1825.

1818. Subscription list for the building of St. Andrew's church.

This was dated 25 April, 1818, and states:— "We whose names are hereunto subscribed do promise to pay in cash or wheat the sums opposite our names toward erecting a Protestant Episcopal Church in the township of Grimsby."

This list was signed by 36 members and £517 was subscribed. There was also a list of oak and pine saw logs subscribed by 10 members.

1818. Address to Sir Peregrine Maitland, the newly appointed Gover-

ner of Upper Canada, from the Magistrates and Inhabitants of the township of Grimsby, on the occasion of his visit to this district.

To Sir Peregrine Maitland, Knight Commander of the most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Upper Canada and Major General commanding his Majesty's forces therein—

We, the Magistrates and Inhabitants of the Township of Grimsby and its vicinity, bearing in mind those sentiments of happiness with which we hailed the arrival of your Excellency in this Province, beg your Excellency to receive our assurances, that in the hearts of the Loyal Inhabitants of this township, these sentiments have suffered neither diminution nor change— Deeply interested in every event connected with our happy constitutions and tenderly alive to circumstances affecting the welfare of the Illustrious Individual to whom your Excellency is allied, as well as the happiness of your own person, we regret that we have not had an earlier opportunity of offering our sentiments on this subject.—

But now we beg permission most unfeignedly to assure your Excellency, that as well as from our country, as from a sense of justice and duty, we shall always feel and be always ready to give proof of the most anxious solicitude for the health, happiness, and prosperity of your Excellency and family, as well as the Government under which we have the happiness to live —

The answer of the Governor General:—

Gentlemen:—

The receiving of this loyal and kind address has added much to the gratification I experienced in viewing your beautiful township, where the hand of industry has so well obliterated the vestiges of war—a war in which I am not unmindful that you bore a distinguished part in defence of that glorious constitution which is so justly our boast.

Accept my sincere thanks for your expression of kind regards to myself and family, which I assure you is very grateful to me.

1818. Letter of Henry Nelles to his father — No. 2.

Grimsby 30 October, 1818

Dear Father:

Enclosed I have sent you Mrs. Adairs and Mrs. Johnsons Powers etc.—Mrs. Overhold was here the other day and as I was not at home, she returned without getting her business done—none of the other pensioners has yet made their appearance.

The apples and potatoes are all gathered and the men have been hawling slabs to make the Cross fence below the wheat. Today and tomorrow they will have to work the roads. I mentioned to Jacob Nelles respecting his leaving the place next spring and for him not to put anything in the ground this Fall. But he had commenced clearing off the logs in the field below the road and had it part ploughed. He therefore said he would continue with that field and likewise that you had agreed to let him have the place for three years. In fact the poor fellow almost shed tears and told such a plausible story that I said I would try to intercede with you for him to keep the place another year. He likewise said that he would get the rails and make the fence that was in dispute. Thomas (my cooper) wishes you would let him know when

would be the best time to go to York and apply for his lands. He thinks while you are at York, as you might assist him or probably when you want the Horses sent over to come home with—in your next please let me know.

There has been little water as yet for the Mill and I fear there will be less until there comes more rain. As Beamer let the water out of his Dam yesterday, it came down so fast that it run over the Dam. Dean has not got the Dye stuff yet as he is waiting for Mr. James Crooks to return from Niagara. He commenced fulling a Stock full yesterday. Hixon has done all the work that was mentioned except fixing the Fore Bay. He has gone to the Short Hills with his brother Levi for a week or ten days—when he returns he will fix that also. I do not recollect of anything else that would be amusing to you except the Families are all well—

I am, dear Father,

Your most affectionate son, H. Nelles.

N.B. Little Mary Ann Pilkington has had another attack of the Croupe but is recovering. H.N.

It would be interesting and informative if Robert Nelles' letters to his son Henry had been preserved. One may surmise that, although away from home while sitting in Parliament at York, Colonel Robert kept a close rein on affairs of the family and on business.

The Mrs. Adair and Mrs. Johnson referred to above were war widows who presented claims for pensions.

Jacob Nelles was not a member of the three Nelles families of this district but was probably a connection. And he must have been a plausible fellow retaining the rented land and fixing the disputed fence for he remained in Grimsby for a number of years. However, there was nothing that Col. Robert Nelles could do about the overflow of water from John Beamer's mill dam or the lack of water for the same reason. John Beamer had the Upper mill and the upper hand and the right to dam the waters of The Forty for his own use.

1819. Letter of Henry Nelles — No. 3.

Grimsby 7th July, 1819

Dear Father,

The vessel reached here this morning and have shipped the walnut and cherry boards, say 2000 ft. walnut and 500 ft. cherry with some walnut scantling. Six barrels of flour and one barrel potatoes, the Master did not care about taking any more therefore we did not ship any pine, although she might have carried two or three thousand feet more.

There is at present no water. Dean is carding with horses and there has not been much grinding since you left home. William has got both the orchards ploughed and the most of the field next to the church. And as we expect you home daily I will not be particular in giving you a description of business. I have shipped but one small load of my staves and I wish you would endeavor to procure some Craft or crafts to take the remainder, say between 5 and 6000—what makes me

so anxious to get them off is that my Funds in Hand this year is so small that it is not worth while to go to Montreal and if I cant collect something more it will be useless for me to go down—should that be the case it will be much against me as I have at present the greatest proportion of Trade and if I could continue this year I could monopolize nearly all for the future.

I wrote you some time since to know what the price of Hams and Pork might bring at York. You did not answer that part of my letter but I have at a venture shipped on board your Vessel and consigned to your disposal Five barrels of Pork and 26 Hams weighing 291 lbs, which I beg you will make some inquiry and endeavor to sell the same—I ought to have 25 dollars for the Pork and 1/6 for hams but if you cant sell them for \$20 for the Pork and 1/6 for hams—**Cash**—please send them to Niagara where I will take them in charge. I have sent you two or three small commissions some time ago to execute which if in your way I wish you would not forget. We are all well and beg you will excuse this hasty scrawl, as the vessel is waiting.

Yours in haste—H. Nelles.

One gathers from the above letters that there was considerable rivalry between the millers and merchants in Grimsby. At this time there were two grist mills and three saw-mills on The Forty. William Crooks grist mill stood on Lot 10 Conc. I on the north-west side of the bridge as you enter town (Hewson's property). Robert and Henry Nelles owned mills on Lot 10 Concession II on either side of the Upper bridge (now Gibson Ave.) the grist mill on the west side, the saw-mill on the east.

John Beamer's mill was located on Lot 11 Conc. III on top of the escarpment. William and Abraham Nelles had a saw mill on Lot 9, Conc. I on the west side of The Forty creek where it emptied into the pond. All of them sold lumber and flour in the district and a great deal was shipped by lake boats to Kingston and down the St. Lawrence to Montreal. These boats returned laden with goods for retail sale.

Henry Nelles and William Crooks had merchant shops near their mills and sometimes they exchanged goods to fill an order as merchants still do today. The Nelles account books have been preserved which enables us to record prices in these years. A great many accounts show that trade was carried on by barter—household utensils, china, hardware, building materials, dress goods etc. being paid for in wheat, dairy products meats, etc. all settled in terms of Halifax currency—pounds, shillings and pence.

Imported goods were expensive. Panes of glass for windows, and they were small at this time, sold for 2s. per pane. Iron hinges 2s. 6d., window knobs 2s., hand irons £1. 12., iron shovel and tongs—16s., iron bake oven—£1. 6., iron tea-kettle—£1. 16., frying pan—13s., iron pot—£1. 7.

Coffee and tea sold for 10 and sometimes 12s. per lb., sugar 2s. per lb., imported rum 3s. per quart, gin 6s., port wine 3s. 9d.

Dress goods remained costly. Fearnought sold at 7s. 6d., flannel 8s. per yd., sheeting 5s. 3d. yd., mull muslin 10s. yd., calico 4s. yd. A fur bonnet sold for £1 16s., gloves 6s., buckskin mitts 10s., a night-cap 5s., a silk shawl for 12s. 6d.

A pack of cards sold for 7s., a quire of paper 2s., a Murray spelling book for 3s., an arithmetic for 9s., a prayer book for 6s.

In exchange wheat brought 2/6 per bushel, rye 2s., veal 6d. per lb, pork 5d. and one item of 25 sausages at 1s. 6d.

Sometimes staples were paid for in daily work—chopping wood, hauling, planting, ploughing, harvesting and the ladies often paid for dress materials and wearing apparel by sewing and teaching.

As whisky was now manufactured by two distillers in the village it sold for a mere shilling a quart. One yeoman gave 40 pine trees for 10 gallons. This may have been for resale or perchance he was providing the strong brew for a 'Bee'. The above accounts were taken from Henry Nelles' books.

William Nelles' book deals not only with the buying of trees and selling of lumber but many other items throw light on activities in the community. The mill is mentioned in one—"In account with Abel Ward. By 12 days framing flume at the mill—£4,16s." the date 12 Oct., 1819. On June 25th of the same year the name of a school teacher, who evidently boarded with the family:—

In account with John Bourns	Contra account:—
—To 16 weeks boarding at 12s.—	By writing at times.
£9 16s	By six months school for 3 children:

Another account that runs from 1819 to 1822 mentions Hugh McMahon, school teacher, who bought staples amounting to £25,2s.,8d. and settled for them by the 'tuition of Peter, Catherine and John Nelles for two years and four months'.

1821. Besides a farm, grist and saw mills and a distillery Robert Nelles had a 'Fulling Mill' which on May 1st, 1821 he leased to Thomas Waddell and William Stewart. This agreement reads as follows:—

Article of agreement made & concluded by & between Robert Nelles of Grimsby, District of Niagara Esq., of the One part and Thomas Waddel & Wm. Stewart of the same place Carders and Clothiers of the other part, witnesseth that the said Nelles hereby agrees that the said Waddel & Stewart have the use of his Carding Machine together with the fulling Mill, and Utensils thereunto belonging; for the space of three years, commencing from the 1st day of May now last past, and to end on the 1st day of May 1824—for the consideration herein after mentioned—

That is to say the said Waddel & Stewart promise agree and

engage, to attend and drive on the said carding, fulling and Dressing of Cloth—, faithfully, diligently & in a good workman like manner and employ such hands as they may find necessary for carrying said works at their own expence, and to deliver and pay over to the said Nelles his executors administrators or assigns at least once a Month one half of all the money received by them for Carding & fulling—as also one half of the notes taken and received by them from the customers, for work done in said Mills. And all such customers who may not pay money or give notes the said Waddel & Stewart hereby agree to collect the same amounts due either in money notes or province, and deliver and pay over to the said Nelles, the one half of each article as above mentioned, at least once a year during the aforesaid term of three years.—The Books are to be kept by Waddel & Stewart in a regular manner so that they may be fairly understood and allow the said Nelles his executors administrators and assigns to have free access at any time to the said Books, and also the perusal of them when required by either himself, his executors, administrators or assigns and deliver up the said Books to the said Nelles, his executors, administrators or assigns at the expiration of each year.

The said Nelles hereby agrees to provide all the new cards that may be necessarily required for the repair of the Machine during the said term of three years and any other new repairs that may be wanted to and about the Mill—he also agrees to have done at his own expence, and to pay for one half of the Dye Stuffs. And furnish wood delivered at the Mill for the Dye and Kettle and also provide the soap for fulling—and a team and driver in case there is no water—

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands & seals this 24th day of May One thousand Eight hundred Twenty One—

Witness present

Thos. Bingle

Wm. Nelles

William Stewart

(Signed) Thomas Waddel

Robt. Nelles

1822. The people of Grimsby and vicinity were deeply shocked and grieved by the tragic death of their young missionary, William Sampson. His gun was accidently discharged into his leg and because Dr. Cyrus Sumner was away the wound was not properly dressed until the next day. Three days later, 28 April, he died. (For history see No. 8, Annals of The Forty).

1822-1823. The first known Banking business in this locality was carried on by Henry Nelles in his merchant store. We record one page of these interesting accounts:—

An Acct. of Bank Bills Received Commencing November 1822

Dates Recvd. 1822	From Whom	On what Bank	No. Dollars	No. Bills	President's Name	Date Issued
Nov. 22	John Henry Sann	Canada	5	4354	Thos. A. Turner	6 Jany. 1820
26	Dr. Wilison	Montreal Bank	5	5778	S. Gerrard	5 Dec. 1822
28	Samuel Carpenter	" "	2	946	G. Garden	1 " 1818
29	Robt. Nelles	Canada	2	4930	H. McKenzie	1 Jan 1822
Dec. 7	Lewis Beam	York	1	676	W. Alan	1 July "
17	Amy Merritt	Montreal Bank	2	3496	S. Gerrard	1 " 1821
21	L. Whitney	Bank of Canada	1	663	Thos. A. Turner	1 Oct. 1818
23	Caleb Sweazey	" "	1	327	" "	1 Jan 1822
1823 28	Sam'l Carpenter	" "	1	8370	H. McKenzie	1 " "
Jany 30	Samuel Sweazie	" "	1	35	Thos. A. Turner	1 Dec. "
May 20	Sam'l Carpenter	Montreal Bank	5	1342	S. Gerrard	1 Dec. 1820
July 17	Peter Zimmerman	Bank of Canada	5	3430	Thos. A. Turner	1 Oct. 1818
Sept 9	David Underhill	Montreal Bank	5	367	S. Gerrard	1 Jun 1822
9	Henry Griffin	Montreal Bank	5	3628	John Gray	1 Feb. 1819
11	Wm. Stewart	" "	5	3322	S. Gerrard	2 Oct. 1821
11	Stephen Jones	" "	2	1278	" "	7 July 1821
27	B. Goodell	" "	2	5928	G. Garden	1 Dec. 1818
29	John A. Nelles	" "	5	7080	S. Gerrard	1 " 1820
29	Jonathan I. Pettit	" "	2	5489	S. Gerrard	7 July 1821

1823 An Agreement with seals attached but no signatures gives details of a distillery of early times:—

Article of Agreement made at Grimsby this Eleventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty three by and between Henry Nelles of Grimsby, Merchant and John E. Kay of same place Distiller, —

That is to say the said Nelles does agree to let the said Kay have his Distillery for this season and for as much longer as both shall agree, provided the said Kay does fulfill what he is hereunto bound to do—that is for every bushel of good middlings, Rye, Corn, or Distil wheat the said Nelles delivers; the said Kay is to deliver the said Nelles Nine quarts of good merchantable rectified Whiskey, to sink the Bubble thirty two at Temperate Heat, Weekly or oftener if required, and for every bushel of Screenings Eight quarts of same kind of whiskey. And should the said Nelles see fit to receive any Whiskey lower than the above Standard, the said Kay is to make up the deficiency, by adding One—pint pr. Bushel for every number of the Bubble that may be weaker than thirty two, and as soon as the said Nelles can furnish sufficient quantity of Grain, the said Kay Promises to run not less than Fifty Bushels per week—and should the said Kay fall short at any time in his Payments it will be in the Power of the said Nelles to Dismiss the said Kay from his Distillery—And the said Nelles or his Agent to have free Egress and regress at all times into the said Distillery. And he further receives all the still slop,—but will allow the said Kay to keep five or six Hogs in the still yard—And when the still house is taken back everything is to be retained in the same state that it was received, Ware and Tare excepted—

For the true performance of this Agreement the Parties bind themselves one to the other in the Penal sum of Fifty Pounds Province Currency,—As witness their Hands and Seals at Grimsby the day and year first above written.

The above unsigned document is another piece of unfinished business that historians come across when searching for records of over a century ago. We can only surmise that John Kay did not find the agreement acceptable. He lived in Grimsby in 1823-1824. His wife's name was Mary Ann and their daughter Rosannah, b. 22 October, 1823 was baptised by Rev. A. N. Bethune 4 January 1824. (St. Andrew's church record.)

1824. Lake boats continued to carry produce from Grimsby and vicinity to Montreal. A circular bearing the date 7 December, 1824, states:—

The shipping season being over, we beg to offer a state of the market with such observations as occur to us on the occasion.

Here are a few of the observations, all of which effected the lives of the farmers hereabout and interesting from that point of view.

A sad reverse in the grain market has been again experienced this year. Early in the season wheat was held at 6s.8d. & 7s.6d. per minot, and fine flour at 35s. & 37s. per barrel. Indian meal has sold this year at 12s.6d. & 15s. per barrel and 70s. & 80s. per Puncheon.

The price of butter has ruled between 5d. & 6d. The consumption is large but we anticipate no improvement in price.

In the lumber market a good and extensive business has also been done, particularly in the forend of the season but a large stock of red and white pine timber remains over at Quebec and, if the usual supply comes forward next year prices must rule low.

Rather a melancholy report which seemed to be reflected in the life of this community especially for those who had large families to support. In several instances their children were adopted by or apprenticed to the more prosperous citizens. One such document we copy in because it is a little story of human interest.

1825 Bond Girl Indenture

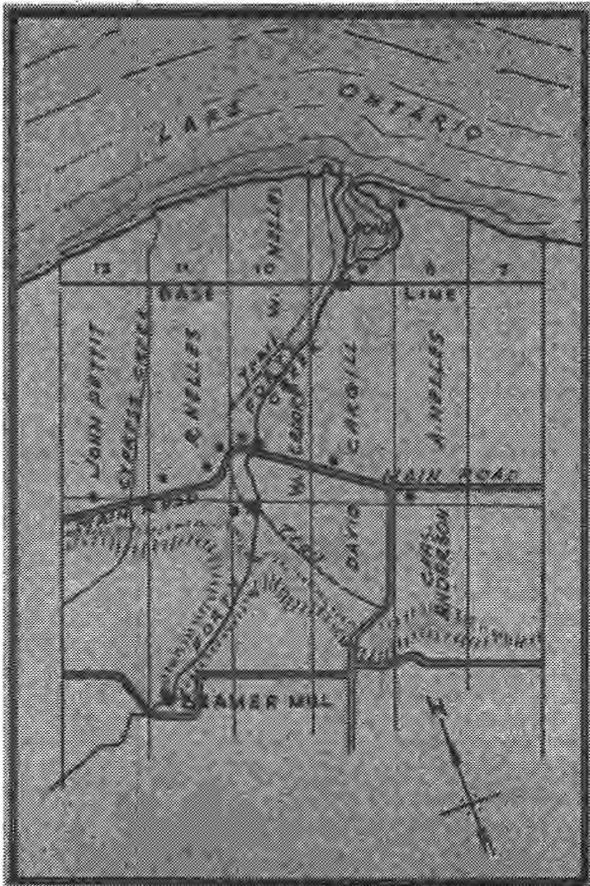
THIS INDENTURE—Made at Grimsby in the District of Niagara and Province of Upper Canada, the First day of January in the year of our Lord One thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty five. Witnesseth that Mary Ann Thompson, Daughter of Robert and Ann Thompson, aged seven years two months and three days, by and with the consent of the said Robert and Ann Thompson, Her Father and Mother, and of her own free will, hath placed and bound, herself Apprentice to Henry Nelles of Grimsby Merchant and Sarah, his wife, with them as an apprentice to dwell continue and serve, from the day of the date hereof unto the full end and term of Ten years, Nine months and Twenty Eight Days, or until the said Mary Ann Thompson shall have attained Her full age of Eighteen years, which will be on the Twenty Eighth day of October in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty five, during all which term of time, the said Apprentice, her said Master and Mistress well and faithfully shall serve, their secrets keep, their lawful commands gladly do and obey, Hurt to her said Master and Mistress she shall not do, nor wilfully suffer it to be done by others, but of the same to the utmost of her power shall forthwith give notice to her said Master and Mistress. The goods of her said Master and Mistress she shall not embezzle, or waste, nor them lend without their consent to any, at Cards, Dice, or any other unlawful Games she shall not Play, Taverns, Ale Houses or Tippling Houses she shall not frequent. Fornication she shall not commit, Matrimony she shall not Contract—from the service of her said Master and Mistress she shall not at any time depart or absent herself without her said Master and Mistress' leave—but in all things as a good and faithful servant shall and will demean and behave herself towards her said Master and Mistress during the said term.

And the said Master and Mistress, in consideration of her services and good conduct, shall and will also find and allow, unto the said Apprentice, Meat, Drink, washing, Lodging, and apparel, both Linen and Woolen, and all other necessities, fit and convenient for such Apprentice during the term aforesaid, and shall also cause the said Apprentice within such term, to be instructed, to Read and Write, and at the end of the said term shall give to the Apprentice—Two suits of Clothes and a Milch Cow and Bed.

In Witness whereof the Parties have hereunto set their Hands and Seals at Grimsby the day and year above written—

In Presence of
Thos Bingle
Abm. Nelles

Robert X Thompson
Ann Thompson
her
Mary Ann X Thompson
mark



Small map of Grimsby, 1825. Shows four mills on The Forty. First road up the escarpment, trails leading from lake to Nelles Mills and across David Cargill's lot to road up hill. (Sketch by Mr. F. Kitto.)

In the light of present day methods of securing help the above indenture would be considered a one-sided harsh agreement and sympathy would go out to the little apprentice. However, from later mention of Mary Ann Thompson in Dr. Lundy's journal one gathers that she had been brought up more as one of the Nelles family than a servant. She was a member of St. Andrew's church and went to tea and to spend the day with the Miss Lundys.

1825 The Coacher with the Fringe on top.

Mr. Abraham Nelles and Mr. Henry Griffin were considering

the purchase of carriages in this year. The following letter to the former gives a detailed description of carriages in use at this time.

Troy, August 19th, 1825

Sir — Your friend Mr. Griffin has been examining a number of Carriages that I now have on hand and is much pleased with the style and workmanship of the same. He tells me that you are about purchasing and would like a description of different Carriages—

I have one first rate Family Coacher Painted a handsome green. the driver's seat is suspended outside the body with lamps, well plated throughout with Silver and handsomely finished, with a footman's board swung behind on the back springs which is very convenient for a trunk or a boy to stand on. The body is convenient for from 4 to 6 Persons to ride under cover and lined with an Elegant Blue cloth trimmed with green lace of a very neat pattern. The head lining is green silk bordered with silk fringe. In the center of the roof is a netting made of cord for the convenience of the Ladies Parasols, Handkerchiefs etc.—

The season is rather advancing I will put you the above described Carriage at 550 dolls. I have been building the same kind to order for from \$600 to \$650. If you like a Coacher you will be well pleased with this.

I have also on hand a Carriage Calho, a Coacher Waggon hung in the same manner of a Coacher with a standing top that covers all the seats except the Drivers, they are all placed in a similar manner of a Coacher. The body has a door on both sides and is well lined with Blue cloth and green lace. It will admit one more person on the driver's seat than the Coacher and the same inside. This kind of carriage is coming much in use and well liked by those who have tried them. I will put this to you for 350 Dolls. Mr. Griffin thinks one or the other of these Carriages will suit you. If you think proper to send for either of the above carriages you may rely upon their goodness and what I say concerning them—

Yours Respectfully,

(Signed) Oramus Eaton.

Henry Griffin was the son of Smith Griffin of Smithville. As well as being a merchant and miller in that village Smith opened a shop in Grimsby, and there was evidently quite a lot of traffic between the villages. The road termed "Road to The Twenty" began on Charles Anderson's property (Lot 8) and ran up the hill in a south westerly direction.

In 1825 Henry Nelles of Lot 10 signed an agreement with David Cargill of Lot 9 to open a road across the latter's farm. It said in part:—

"The said David Cargill will allow and permit a free open and uninterrupted Road Way for waggons and other teams to pass and re-pass up and down the mountain. The road to commence under the mountain adjoining the said Henry Nelles' land, run along the foot of the hill on Lot No 9 Conc. II until it intersects the present road now opened and travelled from Charles Anderson's to the Twenty Mile Creek.

The said Henry Nelles doth hereby covenant and agree that he will pay unto the said David Cargill for the privilege hereinbefore mentioned **One Pepper Corn** annually if demanded."

A map comprising Lots 8, 9, 10, and 11 Concs. I and II with various houses, places of business and mills on The Forty will give one an idea of the village in 1825.

1826. It is not known where Smith Griffin's store was located but his advertisement in the Niagara Gleaner, dated 14 January, 1826, reads:—

An elegant assortment of Chinaware, Glass Ware and Crockery, Hardware of most descriptions, suitable for the country.

He solicits a share of Patronage and the public is invited to call at his Cash Store, Forty Mile Creek and examine for themselves. Grimsby, 15 August, 1826.

The date at the end of the advertisement would indicate that he opened his Cash Store in August of that year.

1827. Another item appeared in the Niagara Gleaner 17 March, 1827. It was headed:—

Sale At Public Auction — Will be sold at Public Sale on Wednesday the 26th of April next at 11 o'clock A.M. at the house of the subscriber—his Grist Mill, Saw Mill, Oil Mill and Turnings Machinery, with a convenient merchant shop on the Thirty Mile Creek. Also a commodious House calculated for a store or Tavern on the Mountain Road leading from Ancaster to Niagara. There is a small lot of land attached to each of the above Premises with two houses on the same suitable for a family. Also a quantity of Spanish Brown Paint of a superior quality.

The above Premises will be sold separately to suit purchasers One fifth of Purchase money will be required down and the remainder in yearly instalments.

John Beam, Clinton.

A plan of the Upper Thirty termed "A map of a vanished community" drawn later shows that John Beam did not sell all of the above property. He still retained his house and farm, his grist and saw mills and a tavern opposite his house on the Thirty road.

1827. The Schooner "Two Sisters", Capt. Sinclair Master, put in at Grimsby on 1 November. On Nov. 3 there are two accounts recorded in connection with taking aboard wheat for Henry Nelles:—

In account with James Durham. By shipping 636 bags of wheat on board the "Two Sisters"

In account with Adam Zimmerman, Clinton. By shipping 465 bags of wheat on board the "Two Sisters"

1829. From 1828 to 1831 other boats are mentioned—a schooner called the "Telegraph", a steam boat "Niagara" and the "Brittania". In connection with this boat service the following notice to Henry Nelles and his statement of grain and other produce throws light on shipping methods of long ago.

Brockville 6 April, 1829

Sir,

Referring to our card of 10 January last, we now have to inform you that we have made arrangements with Mr. Chileon Ford, Commission merchant, Montreal, to act as our agent at that place for the ensuing season. All goods delivered to him will be forwarded by our boats to the place with as little delay as possible, and on their arrival here shipped by the first vessel to their destination or, if they are to go into the interior, sent by the first teamsters who present orders for them.

We are now ready to receive PRODUCE, and beg to renew our pledge that it shall be forthwith forwarded by new and substantial Boats manned by careful Masters and Crews—In consequence of TOLL laid last winter on Property passing through the Lachine Canal, together with the interruption of our boats are likely to meet with at the Cascades, Cedres, and Coteau de Lac, during the time the Government are repairing the locks at those places, and the low state of water of the Saint Lawrence, freight will be much higher than last year. You may, however, depend upon our price being as low as any of the houses at Prescott. When property is shipped to us by the vessel (or if not by the next mail) to whom it is to go, also whether any arrangement has been made with the vessel owners with regard to Lake freight.

We remain—Your obedient, humble servants—H. & S. Jones.
From Brockville Ex. of Insurance. Flour, 2s.6d. a barrel, Pork, 3s.9d. a barrel, Ashes, £1 7s.6d. a ton. Wheat, 2s.6d. a bag, all other property in proportion.

An Acct. of Produce shipped from Grimsby by H. Nelles and consigned to Messers Gillespie, Moffat and Co. Montreal, 1831

Date	To Whom	Vessels	Bbls Flour	Bbls Pork	Kegs Lard	Bus. Wheat	Remarks
March 27	H. & S. Jones	Niagara	296	100	16		One of the
April 13	W. Millan	Niagara	307				Kegs a barrel
June 11	McPherson	Two Sisters	150			1,490	740 Bags 150 bags, bulk
June 19	McPherson	W. Canal				3,156	
June 30	McPherson	W. Canal		9	1	500	
June 30	W. Millan	W. Canal	324			1,544	
		Total	1077	109	17	6,700	Say 612 of Bags marked HN.
Aug. 31	McPherson	W. Canal				542½	

1829. Henry Nelles was appointed Post Master at Grimsby 6 July, 1829. One of his old books of 'Sent Letters' has been preserved and contains many items of interest.

According to an article headed 'Old Times on The Twenty' Mr. Isaac Adkins writes about his youthful days in South Grimsby:—

The mail was carried on the lower road by stage, this line being established from Niagara to Hamilton and points west about 1828.

A great many people were moving from the Eastern states to Michigan and Illinois. In the summer they went by the lower road but in the winter they travelled by the upper road with covered sleighs drawn by horses and sometimes oxen."

1830. There was a post office inquiry held in Grimsby 3 March, 1830. It concerned a money letter that had been sent from the Brantford post office to Henry Griffin, Grimsby and, in the account of the inquiry, we glean a bit of information about the business section of the village at this time.

The mail-coach from the west arrived at the Grimsby post office (on what is now the corner of Main and Gibson Avenue) at about nine o'clock in the morning. Shortly afterwards Edwards, a colored servant of Dr. Francis Porter, called for the latter's mail and, as was often his custom, collected the mail for Henry Griffin at the same time. Dr. Porter shared a house with a Mr. Campbell and Henry Griffin lived and had a merchant shop close by. It is believed that the former gentleman lived in the old John Green house at the top of Crook's Hill. Edwards took the mail to Henry Griffin's store where it was found that the money had been taken from the money-letter. At the inquiry both Dr. Porter and Mr. Campbell testified that Edwards was honest and entirely trustworthy and they declared that in their opinion he had nothing to do with removing the money.

Thomas Bingle, assistant to Henry Nelles said he had received the mail from the stage-coach and he remembered handing the mail to Edwards. The money was never found and Henry Nelles wrote a letter to the authorities stating that there had been no evidence produced that the money had been removed at Grimsby and that it was probably done at Brantford and thus as far as can be ascertained the matter rested.

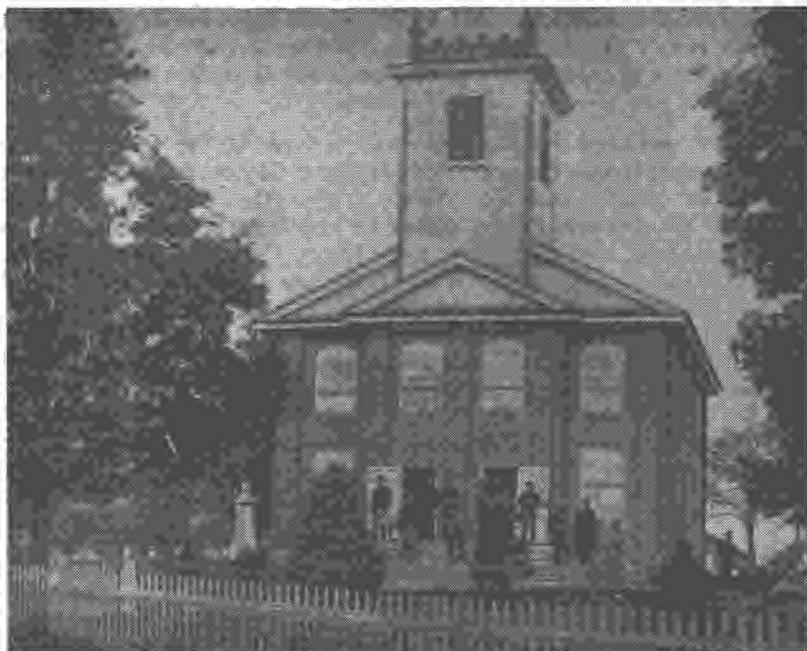
Dr. Porter did not practise in Grimsby for long but he won his bride here. She was Catherine Bingle, sister of Thomas Bingle and step-daughter of Col. Robert Nelles. She was married to Dr. Porter by the Rev. George Grout 30 July, 1831 and in 1835 they were living in Niagara town.

1830. Church bell at St. Andrew's has pealed for 128 years.

In May, 1830 William Crooks, one of the Wardens of St. Andrew's church, sent a money letter to Thomas Ridout, York. Remarks in the 'Sent Letters' column in the Post Office book states—"For church bell".

Early in this year the Grimsby township Council met at Ralph Walker's House. This is the first mention of his Inn built on what is now the n. east corner of Main and Elizabeth streets. This was later called "The Mansion House" and "The Mansion House Apartments" (recently demolished). Ralph Walker had purchased a portion of Lot 10 Conc. I, built several houses and sold lots.

1831. A Post Office was established at Smithville, U.C. 5 July, 1831. Post Master Joseph Forsyth, appointed 6 July, 1836, Sureties—James Bell Forsyth, and Smith Griffin. (Extracts from Journals of Legislative Assembly of the Province of Canada.)



**Presbyterian Church erected in 1832. It was termed "The Brick Church".
(See picture of survey.)**

A Presbyterian Church erected in Grimsby.

Henry Griffin had purchased a portion of Lot 10 Conc. I along the west main road leading into the village. On 29th October, 1831, he, with other members of the community met at Ralph Walker's Inn to discuss the building of a Presbyterian church. There were several offers of land and, after due consideration, it was decided to use the lot next to Henry Griffin's residence for a church and churchyard. A deed of this land from Henry Griffin was made to the Trustees of the Church namely — Ralph Walker, George Muir and John D. Beamer. In the following year the "Brick Church", as it was called, was built.

A Temperance Society was organized in Grimsby township in 1831 and the practice of furnishing whiskey at "Bees" was abolished. (Old Times on The Twenty.)

1832. There was a special session held at Ralph Walker's Inn 28

Nov., to try offending militia men and officers. Henry Wm. Nelles of Lake Lodge and Smith Griffin presided. Thirteen men of the 4th Lincoln were fined presumably for absenting themselves on training days.

1833. A Brewery was in operation in Grimsby. An old account book 1833-34 gives the number of barrels or kegs of beer sold, the names of the purchasers, which included most of the families in the district and the price. Beer sold for £1 10s. per barrel and 8s. 9d. per keg.

At about this time Morris Udell bought a portion of Lot 11 from Robert Nelles. It bordered Cypress Creek and he built an Inn on Main Street which he called Cypress Inn. This was a stage-coach stop for many years. (See Udell history No. 9, Annals of The Forty.)

On February 13, 1833, an act was passed granting money for the improvement of Roads and Bridges in the several districts. In the appropriation for Niagara it tells how the monies are to be expended:—

On the road from Charles Anderson's in Grimsby to Daniel Camps on The Twenty Mile Creek (Smithville) the sum of forty-seven pounds, ten shillings and that John Beamer, Daniel Palmer and William Freher be commissioners for expending the same.

March 6, 1834, the following:— On a line between Lots 16 and 17 from the Main road in Grimsby to George Ball's, the sum of twenty-five pounds and that Dennis Woolverton, Ralph Walker and Jacob Tufford be commissioners for expending the same.

1834. Dr. Henry Goodman was practising in Grimsby. The first mention of his name in the St. Andrew's church records when Edwin, son of Henry and Arabella Goodman was baptised 20 April, 1834. Other sons baptised at a later date were Alfred Riggs born 10 January, 1835; John Ambrose b. 4 August, 1836; Kenneth b. 30 March, 1839. Dr. Goodman is mentioned in Dr. Jonathan Woolverton's diary when he attended cases with Dr. Goodman or called him into consultation from 1834 - 1839.

Cholera Epidemic in the district.

In 1834 Dr. Jonathan Woolverton gives an account of the Cholera epidemic in Grimsby. He does not give the names of those who died but mentions that among those who recovered were Dennis Palmer and James Millmine.

This epidemic seemed to have been general throughout the province. Late in 1834 Dr. Jonathan Woolverton proceeded to York to continue his medical work in the hospitals there. He writes:—

December 1, 1834. Pursuant to my intentions, this day I set out for York. Through carelessness of the driver the coach was upset on Burlington Heights.

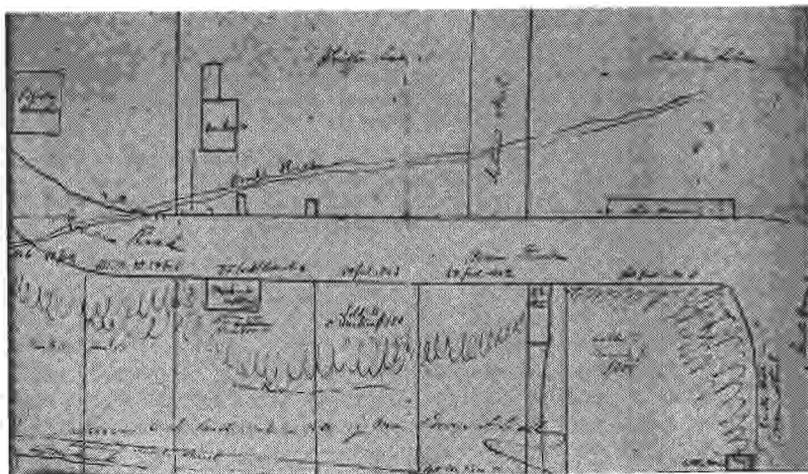
My time was principally occupied in the departments of either the sick, the dying or the dead, chiefly the latter; and when I look

back upon the scenes which were transacted in the Cholera Hospital during the winter my mind almost recoils upon itself.

1835. At this time Dennis Woolverton, father of Dr. Jonathan, was a member of parliament for this district and Dr. Woolverton continues in his journal:—

On the 15th of January, the day on which Parliament was convened, my father came to York in company with Caleb Hopkins. I frequently visited the House during the session and was much gratified and interested with the debates on several measures. The two Houses were much opposed to each other but as far as I can foresee the Legislative Council by their obstinacy are fast hastening their own downfall. Before many years they must show more disposition to comply with the majority of the lower House or supplies will be stopped.

Both Caleb Hopkins and Dennis Woolverton were Reformers in politics.



Small survey made in 1836 showing portion of Main Street west.

1836. The following description of our village was taken from a "Statistical Account of Upper Canada" by Dr. Thomas Rolph:—

The village of Grimsby in the township of that name is delightfully situated under the brow of a lofty mountain beautifully wooded to its summit. The Forty Mile Creek runs through it turning several mills and falls into the lake immediately below it, where a harbour has been formed at its mouth. There are two churches in the village, several pretty residences, some fine large orchards, extensive and well cleared farms surrounding it good stores and two taverns.

A survey taken at this time shows a portion of the village marking the sites of buildings which no longer grace our west main street — the Brick Church, Henry Griffin's new house, the old John



Mechanics Hall, 1836 marked on survey . Now a residence owned by Miss Helen Kirk.



Henry Griffin's house, also marked on survey. Demolished in 1958.

Green residence, William Crooks' house, Henry Griffin's store and what was termed the 'Mechanic Building'. This was probably the stone house built, it is said, by Robert Nelles in the early years. It also shows the millrace which ran from the creek across Main street in a north westerly direction and in describing the land needed by Henry Griffin to the Trustees for the Presbyterian Church it mentions the Mill-Race Bridge. This would indicate that in 1833 the mill-race had not yet been filled in.

Dr. Rolph states that there was a harbor in Grimsby. In a later prospectus for forming a harbor it says:—

The proposed construction of a Harbor at Grimsby is no new thing. In 1834-36 the farmers and merchants, fully aware to the many disadvantages to which they were subjected by want of a Harbor, determined to build one. After forming themselves into a **Joint Stock Company** they had nearly one half of their harbor built when the Rebellion of 1837 broke out, after which nothing more was done, consequently in the course of time it went to ruin and decay.

1837. Rebellion in Upper Canada.

In reviewing the events leading up to the Rebellion there is evidence that a number of men in this community were followers of William Lyon Mackenzie. They remained so until the name Rebel became attached to his name and he began to advocate the use of arms to enforce the policies that he recommended. Then it is believed that most of them no longer gave him their support. It is worth noting that in 1836 both Dennis Woolverton, member for W. Lincoln County and Caleb Hopkins, member for East Halton decided to drop out of politics for the time being. The Hon. John Wilson of Saltfleet township expressed his opinion of the uprising as being — "wanton, wicked, and wholly unprovoked".

At first it seemed that the Rebellion was not taken too seriously. General orders were issued to the 4th Regiment of Lincoln Militia to be prepared to defend their country against uprising. A part of this regiment was stationed at Grimsby under command of Col. Robert Nelles.

After the battle at Montgomery's Tavern near Toronto Col. Henry Nelles of the 4th Lincoln received a letter from Col. Mackenzie Fraser Ass.Qu.Mas. General stating in part:—

"Mackenzie was last seen in the neighborhood of Toronto but, as no accounts of his intended movements have been received you will on receiving this, cause most rigorous measures to be effected for his detection and apprehension should he appear in your neighborhood."
P.S. Be pleased to cause copies of this to be circulated.

Contrary to many stories that have been told of people in this part of the Niagara peninsula hiding and shielding Mackenzie in their homes, the true story of his flight written later by Mackenzie himself

states that he proceeded from Ancaster to near Smithville through Glanford and Binbrook townships, thence to the border and across the river into the United States.

Thereafter a committee of Vigilance and Safety was formed on the Niagara frontier and on January 7, 1838, orders issued from Army Headquarters at Chippawa stated that a portion of the 4th Regiment of Lincoln Militia was to furnish the main guard along the river.

1838. Early in the new year Mackenzie with a group of United States sympathizers and refugee Canadians took possession of Navy Island in the Niagara river and planned to make a further attack on Canada.

After they had been routed from this point a letter dated 16 January 1838 to Col. Abraham Nelles from John Ball, Niagara, would lead one to believe that militia men on the other side of the border were engaged in assisting Mackenzie:—

"It gives me much pleasures" he writes, "to tell you that Lount and one of the Malcombs are taken. They were taken at the Grand River and brought down here last night and forwarded to Toronto today. I have been over to Navy Island and brought some canes with me. General Vanveerles riding whip is in my possession and the pen which he used to write despatches, which is an immense Swan's quill.

They certainly must have lived in the greatest misery, their huts are of the most wretched nature and not enough of them to cover more than 200 or 250 men. The steam boat is still in the river and the Schooners and boats are watching her."

For a time after this quiet reigned on the frontier and the Lieut-Governor recommended that a considerable portion of the militia could return to their homes. But it was only a brief respite. Reports came pouring in that rebel forces were landing in various parts of the province and joining with disaffected inhabitants. One such report found in Abraham Nelles' papers was dated 26 April, 1838, and was written by his son-in-law, Thomas Racey of Dundas:—

"Reports say that a descent by the Rebels or pirates is making at Turkey Point — that one steam boat and two schooners have made their appearance and are actually landing men. We do not give credit to the account although something is going on. But any attempt of such a nature as stated would be perfect madness just now."

Alarm and excitement continued to prevail throughout the district especially in the Short Hills of Pelham township where it was said that rebels were gathering in some force. It culminated in an attack on the Queen's Lancers stationed at St. Johns, a little village in Thorold twp. For a time utter confusion reigned — several of the Lancers were wounded and reported killed and a number of rebels were taken prisoners.

Col. Henry Nelles of the 4th Lincoln had his headquarters at Grimsby where an inquiry was held 3 July and evidence taken concerning the activities of certain individuals in the Pelham trouble.

Afterward Henry Nelles wrote the following letter to Headquarters:—

Grimsby 3 July, 1838

Upon an examination of John Ostrander it appears necessary to procure certain letters and papers from Samuel Clothier which was found near the Rebel Camp in Pelham. Captain Vaughn will therefore proceed without delay for that purpose — along with Ostrander and Sergeant Becker, William Swick and Thomas Brooks.

A further investigation of this matter was taken at Drummondville on the 7 July. (For particulars see Niagara Historical Society Paper No. 29, pages 26-27.)

During the remainder of 1838 the unrest continued and even as late as 21 November an order was issued from the Qr. Master General's office in Toronto to Col. Henry Nelles:—

Militia General Order:

His Excellency the Lieut-Governor is pleased to direct that the troop of Cavalry to the 4th Regiment Lincoln Militia be forthwith called into active service until further orders.

Weekly statements every Monday are to be forwarded by the above troop to this office of the Qu. Master General. By Comd.

(Signed) Richard Bullock
As. Q.M. Gen. Militia

This troop of Cavalry was in command of Captain Adam Konkle.

1839. Nominal Return of the Officers of the 4th Regiment Lincoln September 1839, with their place of Residence and date of Commission.

Col. Robert Nelles	12 January	1822
Col. Henry Nelles	6 January	1838
Major — Adam Zimmerman	18 June	1838
Captain Peter Hare	19 April	1822
Captain Jacob Vaughn	5 Nov.	1827
Captain William Nelles	5 Nov.	1827
Captain J. D. Beamer	3 June	1833
Captain Robert Waddel	4 June	1833
Captain Charles Anderson	18 June	1838
Captain William Taylor	18 June	1838
Captain Phillip Dean	28 August	1837
Captain Robert Nixon	28 August	1837
Captain Joseph Zimmerman	26 Dec.	1838
Lieut. George M. Nelles	7 June	1833
Lieut. William Crooks Jr.	8 June	1833
Lieut. Robert F. Nelles	28 August	1837
Lieut. Byard McCurdy	28 "	1837
Lieut. Cyrus Sumner	28 August	1837
Lieut. James Durham	18 June	1838
Lieut. Timothy Hixon	18 June	1838
Lieut. Coonrad Book	18 June	1838
Lieut. Lewis Whitney	8 June	1833
Ensign James Lymburner	25 August	1837
Ensign John Upper	28 August	1838

Ensign L. Heaslip	18 June	1838
Ensign Philip Gregory	18 June	1838
Ensign Andrew Muir	18 June	1838
Ensign John B. Pettit	18 June	1838
Ensign Wm. Forsythe	18 June	1838
Ensign Robert Lymburner	26 Dec.	1838
Adj. John M. Camp	5 Nov.	1827
Q.Mas. William Nixon	27 April	1824
Surg. Jonathan Woolverton	28 August	1837
Cavalry Troop.		
Captain Adam Konkle	10 Oct.	1830
Lieut. Hugh Hunter	26 Dec.	1838
Cornet J. Zimmerman	26 Dec.	1838

At the end of the Rebellion the country remained for a time in an unsettled condition. Dr. Jonathan Woolverton, in his diary, describes it in the following words:—

I may state that the Rebellion has cast a gloom and depression over the whole country which still continues. Thousands have left and are still leaving the country; business of all kinds is at a standstill, the currency is depressed, the Province in debt. The Rebellion has been crushed in the bud, many of the insurgents have been incarcerated; three have been hanged viz.—Lount, Mathews, and Morreau. Many innocent have also suffered. I was out three weeks at the notorious seige of Navy Island acting as assistant surgeon. It is impossible at present to say what will be the fate of the Canadas or when hostilities will finally cease."

To use a descriptive word of these times this was a "melancholy" picture. And, in looking over the records of these troublous days, one is bound to conclude that it does not seem to apply to this part of the country. There had been no interruptions of council meetings, no cessation of trade, money was forthcoming for the repair of and the building of new roads; and court cases of petty thievery and trespass, assault and battery continued to be brought before the Justices of the Peace. As follows:—

1840. District of Niagara:

To Wit— Personally appeared before me, Henry Nelles, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in the said district Samuel Russ, Yeoman and upon oath makes complaint that one — Chapman Leach of Grimsby, Blacksmith did on Saturday the 7th Inst. beat one of the deponent's boys with an iron shovel without any provocation whatsoever.

(Signed) Samuel Russ.

Taken before me at Grimsby
this 9th day of Nov., 1840

Not only court cases but Certifications were recorded:—
Niagara District:

To Wit— This is to certify that William Shaw of Caistor has this day produced a Wolf Sculp and upon oath declares that he killed the said wolf within less than a mile of the settlement in the said township of Caistor on the 25th inst. which said Wolf Sculp I have caused to be destroyed as the law directs.

(Signed) Henry Nelles

Taken before me at Grimsby
this 3rd day of Nov. 1840

1840. Aftermath of the Rebellion

On Good Friday, 17 April 1840 a vagabond by name of Lett who, for his part in the Rebellion, had been compelled to flee into the United States, slipped across the border, placed a quantity of gun-powder under Brock's monument at Queenston, lighted it and caused such damage as to render the column irreparable. At once the various Regimental Officers and other citizens began to subscribe funds to build another monument. A subscription list of the men of the 4th Lincoln Regiment and other prominent men in our community has been preserved:—

Subscription Donation list of the Officers Non Commissioned Officers and other of the 4th Regt. Lincoln Militia, towards the General Fund for the reconstruction of the Monument on Queenston Heights — to the Memory of the late Major General Sir Isaac Brock.

October 1840

Rank	Names	Amount			Remarks
		£	S	D	
Lt. Col.	Henry Nelles	1	5	0	paid
Major	A. Zimmerman	1	0	0	pd
Qt. Master	Wm. Nixon		10	0	pd
Capt.	T. Hixon		15	0	pd
Capt.	P. Hare		15	0	pd
Lieut.	J. Durham		10	0	pd
Lieut.	C. Sumner		10	0	pd
Capt.	J. Simmerman		15	0	pd
Capt.	C. Book		15	0	pd
Lieut.	A. Muir		10	0	pd
Capt.	R. Nixon		15	0	pd
Lieut.	J. B. Pettit		10	0	pd
Capt.	Charles Anderson		15	0	pd
Lieut.	R. Lymburner		10	0	pd
Mr.	John Harris		5	0	pd
Mr.	John Hoover		5	0	pd
Mr.	John D. Beamer		5	0	pd
Capt.	Taylor		15	0	pd
Lieut.	Heaslip		10	0	pd
Ensign	Adam Snyder		5	0	pd
	John Merritt		1	3	pd
	Ezra Oil		15	0	pd 5/
Lieut.	Robert F. Nelles		15	0	pd
	Joseph Moore		5	0	pd
	Jonathan Woolverton		15	0	pd
	Daniel Palmer		3	0	pd
	George R. Grout		10	0	pd
	H. W. Nelles	1	5	0	pd
	Byard McCurdy		10	0	pd
	George P. M. Ball	1	5	0	pd
	Walter Dittrick	1	0	0	pd
	Rev. Mr. McClatchy		10	0	pd
	Ralph Walker		15	0	pd
	Robert Nelles	1	5	0	pd
	Wm. Nelles	1	5	0	pd

Rank	Names	Amount			Remarks
		£	S	D	
	Wm. Eastman		10	0	pd
	James Tisdale		10	0	pd
	J. Forsyth		10	0	pd
	Joseph Forsyth		10	0	pd
	John H. Kilborne		10	0	pd
	John McLean		10	0	pd
	John B. Osborne	1	0	0	pd
	James Kerr		10	0	pd
	Robert Osborne		10	0	pd
	Jacob Beam		10	0	pd
	H. G. Richardson		10	0	pd
	Isaac Marlatt		10	0	pd

1840. An Agricultural Society was established in Grimsby in this year by Mr. James W. O. Clark. (Item in Clark history.)

1841. Court for the Niagara district was held in Grimsby. Henry Nelles died about this time. As Justice of the Peace the last case brought before him was as follows:—

District of Niagara:

To Wit — Personally appeared before me William Wentworth and upon oath makes complaint that one Moses Waldon came into the deponent's house last night about 10 o'clock and broke a pitcher, a jug and a trunk containing papers without any provocation whatsoever. Taken before me at Grimsby, 18 day of Feb. 1841.

1842. After Henry's death his son Robert Fanning Nelles carried on the post office and merchant business.

1843. In his diary Dr. Jonathan Woolverton writes:—

This year is remarkable for the great excitement that has been produced relative to the second advent of the Messiah. Two men preaching this doctrine passed through here declaring that we should not see the 15th of April. The event did not take place as all who may hereafter read will know.

New Road up the Mountain.

A petition was presented to the Municipal Council, District of Niagara, re the Grimsby Mountain road and reads:—

The humble petition of the unsigned committee appointed at a public meeting to open the road down the mountain on Lot No 9 in the 2nd concession of Grimsby to the Municipal Council—

That in accordance with the order of the Council the district surveyor examined the said route for a road and reported favorably of the same — that an order of the Council was obtained for it and that the expence would be, according to the surveyor's report — \$162.10. That the sum of \$75 can be obtained in the immediate vicinity of which the enclosed list of subscribers forms a part. That in consideration of the badness of the present road down the mountain and the foregoing circumstances, your honorable house will grant aid to finance the road, according to the report.

We the Subscribers do hereby promise to pay each for himself to the Pathmasters the sum opposite our respective names for the purpose of opening the road from the gravelly pitt up the Mountain through Hugh Anderson's lot the same as has been laid out by the Engineer—

	£	S	D		£	S	D
A. Farewell	6	5	0	William Beamer	3	15	0
John S. Cook	1	0	0	Dennis Nixon	0	10	0
James A. Henry	0	5	0	Wm. Farmer	1	5	0
Wm. Henry	0	5	0	J. W. Lewis	2	10	0
A. Randal	0	10	0	Andrew Pettit	1	5	0
R. H. Goodman	2	10	0	Robt. Sumner	2	10	0
Adam Konkle	0	10	0	Ezekiel Russ	0	5	0
John D. Beamer	6	5	0	Adam Konkle Jr.	0	5	0
Dennis Palmer	2	0	0	Abishai Morse	1	0	0
Morris Udle	2	0	0	Henry Smith	1	0	0
Matthias Tallman	0	5	0	J. B. Lynn	0	5	0
Nathaniel Wardle	0	5	0	Ralph Triller	0	5	0
Robert Nixon	1	0	0	Wm. Jackson	0	10	0
Byard McCurdy	0	10	0	Eli White	1	0	0
Matthew Durham	0	5	0	Isaac Merrit	0	5	0
George Adams	1	0	0	John Knight	0	5	0
L. Britton	1	0	0	Jesse Baldwin	0	5	0
Charles Moore	0	10	0	Joseph Merritt	0	5	0
Richard Allison	0	10	0	J. P. Bridgman	1	0	0
Adam Zimmerman	0	5	0	Wm. Bridgman	1	0	0
William Buckbee	0	10	0	John W. Smith	0	5	0
John M. Camp	0	10	0	Daniel Camp	2	0	0
Solomon Brown	0	10	0	John Wilde	0	5	0
Robert Adams	0	10	0	Charles Nelles	0	10	0
Jonathan Woolverton	1	5	0	Joseph Tufford	0	5	0
Daniel Palmer	6	5	0	C. Curry	0	5	0
Brock Palmer	2	10	0	J. Vandeusen	0	5	0
William Palmer	1	5	0	E. Gurney	1	5	0
William Nixon	2	0	0	Joseph Merritt	0	5	0
George Vandyke	0	5	0	John Halsted	0	10	0

As may be seen the business men of Grimsby and Smithville subscribed enough money to pay for the new road and in the following year an Act was passed to enable them to proceed.

1844. An Act to open a Road up the Mountain in the township of Grimsby and for other purposes.

Whereas it is expedient and necessary to alter and shut up a certain road up the mountain through Lot No. 9 in the 2nd Concession of the township of Grimsby and to establish a new line of road across said lot — **Be it therefore enacted** by the Niagara District Municipal Council, constituted and assembled under and by virtue of an act of Parliament of this Province entitled—"An Act to provide for the better internal government of that part of the Province which formerly constituted the Province of Upper Canada by the establishment of local and municipal authorities therein" — and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same that the present road across Lot No. 9 in the 2nd Concession of Grimsby be altered and shut up and that the line of road proposed by and laid down in report marked No. 2 and plan or map signed by the district surveyor filed upon the records of the

council on the ninth day of February, 1843, be established and confirmed as therein stated and marked; that is to say commencing at Mr. Jennings's Inn on Lot No. 10, marked c on the plan, then south eighteen degrees west to a Cooper's shop near the foot of the mountain marked e on the map, thence diagonally across Lot No. 9, 2nd Concession until it intersects the main road leading from Grimsby to Dunnville marked b on the plan at the top of the mountain.

From the above description we glean that a Mr. Jennings's Inn stood on Lot 10 probably on the old road extending from the Nelles Mills across No 9 and thence up the mountain. There was also a cooper's shop at the foot of the hill. Although no record can be found it is likely that Mountain street, as we know it today, came into being at this time. Later the old road was granted to Hugh Anderson.

1847. Loyal Canadian Society

Men of this district organized a Loyal Canadian Society and most of the meetings were held in Beamsville and Grimsby. The first meeting was held at Beamsville. The account and Preamble as follows:—

— Its Organization —

A meeting was held at Beamsville on the 16th January, 1847, for the purpose of forming a Canadian Society. The objects of which should be for social and benevolent purposes. It was decided that the name of the society should be "The Loyal Canadian Society" and the 13th October, the anniversary of the Battle of Queenston was selected as the day of meeting—

A Committee composed of the following Gentlemen — Jas. W. O. Clark, Chairman, Peter B. Nelles, Robert Henry, John Nixon, Robert F. Nelles, Wm. Kew and Cyrus Sumner was appointed to draft a constitution—

Preamble

The history of our country, during the short period of its settlement, is so filled with events calculated to cement the tie of friendship for the early pioneers and their descendants, that it is deemed wise to form a Society to keep in perpetuation those associations that were nearest and dearest to the hearts of our forefathers and are still reverently cherished by us, as well as to instill into the minds of our children the same patriotic principles that guided them in their eventful career; and also to rivet the connection of all more closely, if possible, in that bond of union which has so happily existed among Canadians, from the remotest period down to the present auspicious time.

In the hour of danger — war, rebellion and under every trying circumstance — Canadians have invariably been found shoulder to shoulder, ready to stand or fall together, to repel the common enemy and to quiet the disturbers of the peace and harmony of this fair and happy land. To accomplish this no trial was found too severe; every suffering has been born with fortitude and all obstacles cheerfully surmounted. And when the great Captain of the age has said, "That a more devotedly loyal people did not exist in Her Majesty's dominions than Canadians," we may well feel proud, and desirous of some memento, when time shall have passed with us, to remind posterity of what their sires have been, and to cause the sons to emulate that

reputation gained by their fathers, amid hardships, and privations experienced to a greater extent in the first settlement of this than most other countries.

We propose a social general annual meeting of the said Canadian Society, agreeably to the Constitution hereunto appended, from which the desirable result now had in contemplation may, we hope, in some measure be realized.

In appointing a day to keep up those feelings endeared to us, by reviving the past history of our country, and to commemorate the gallant deeds of our ancestors, we cannot perhaps make a better selection, or one in every respect more highly interesting, than the anniversary of that day in which the homes of our forefathers in this District were first defended mainly by themselves and rescued from attempted invasion by the enemy from a foreign shore — that day on which a gloom overcast our otherwise happy land, when we mourned for the gallant BROCK and his comrades in arms, who fell in the hour of victory, while opposed by very superior numbers at the ever memorable battle of Queenston Heights, on the 13th day of October, 1812.

Having submitted the reason why we consider the formation of a Society conducive to the interests of Canadians, we beg to state the purposes for which the same is formed:—

First — For the purpose of continuing those ties of friendship that have hitherto existed, and we hope may ever continue to exist, among the whole Canadian family.

Second — For securing to every British subject a happy reception in this Colony of the Mother Country.

Third — For the benevolent purpose of relieving our distressed countrymen at all times when they shall really require it.

Fourth — For promoting the improvement and general welfare of Canada, whenever it may be in our power so to do.

On the 25th Sept. 1847, the first meeting for the Election of Officers was held at Beamsville — the following being Elected—

President	Jas. W. O. Clarke
Vice President	Peter B. Nelles
Secy. Tres.	Robert F. Nelles
Auditor	John Nixon
Committee	Robert Henry, Major A. Konkle, Wm. Adams, John Nixon, Jas. G. Pettit—

Sir Allan MacNab kindly consented to be the Patron of the Society.

It was resolved to hold the first dinner of the Society at Randall's Hotel, Grimsby, on the 13th Oct, 1847

On the books of the Society there are nearly two hundred names recorded as members among which are the names:—

R. R. Brirely, R. T. Law, J. C. Rykert, Thos. White Jr., Wm. Leggo, John W. Wilson, Thos. C. Mewburn, T. P. Severn M.D., Wm. Fitch M.D., Wm. Canniff M.D., James Seymour, James A. Miller. As honorary Members are the names of **George Hill Johnson, Chief of the Six Nations.** **John S. Johnson, Chief of the Senecas**

Sir Allan MacNab remained the Patron of the Society until his death. Mr. Jas. W. O. Clarke was elected as President each year from 1847 to 1860. And the following gentlemen among others were at different times elected to that office:—W. K. Sumner, Robert F. Nelles, John B. Pettit, J. C. Rykert, R. N. Law, Jas. Seymour, Thos White Jr., Thomas C. Mewburn.

It is believed that one of the reasons for forming a Loyal Canadian Society at this time was because there were certain parties in this country who advocated the annexation of Canada to the United States. Excerpts taken from Col. Charles McCullough's column in the Hamilton Spectator indicate that there was quite a controversy on the subject in our own district.

Postmaster Nelles Stands Firm.

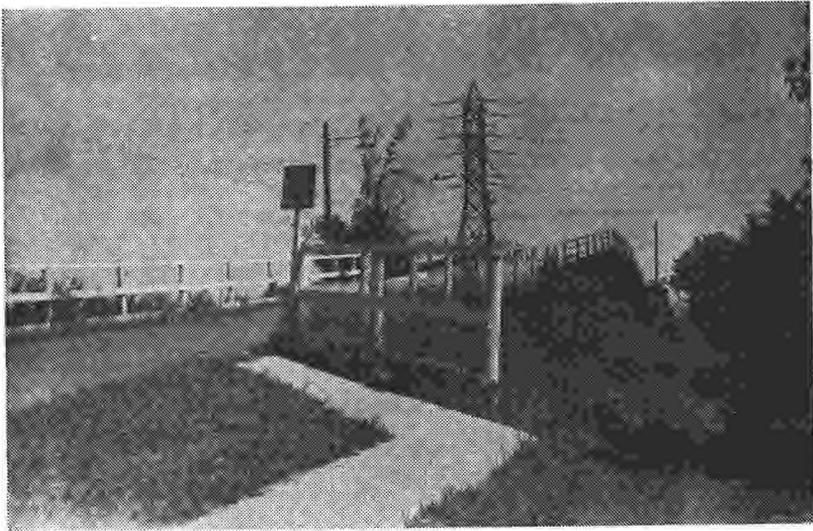
Early in the forties the Independent, a Hamilton paper, had as editor Hugh B. Willson. We are told that Willson was a writer of great ability. He was born at Winona, son of Hon. John Willson. He took to the law and entered in its practice at the Hamilton bar. He like many other men of the time believed that Canada's true destiny was to join up with the United States. It took a good deal of courage to hold even private views of this sort in a community notable of its loyalty and splendid behaviour during the War of 1812. Willson's advocacy of annexation was shared by an alarming array of representative Montreal men.

Hugh B. Willson's Independent by the way was not alone in recommending shelter under Uncle Sam's star spangled umbrella. Believe it or not the organ of the conservative church of England 'The Courier' joined in the crusade for union with the States. So hot grew the atmosphere in the district that Postmaster Nelles of Grimsby positively refused to pass either paper through the wicket. This led to his being charged by the publishers with interrupting the mails and a merry war followed hard after. In the end the loyal Robert Nelles vanquished his enemies and continued to hold his post.

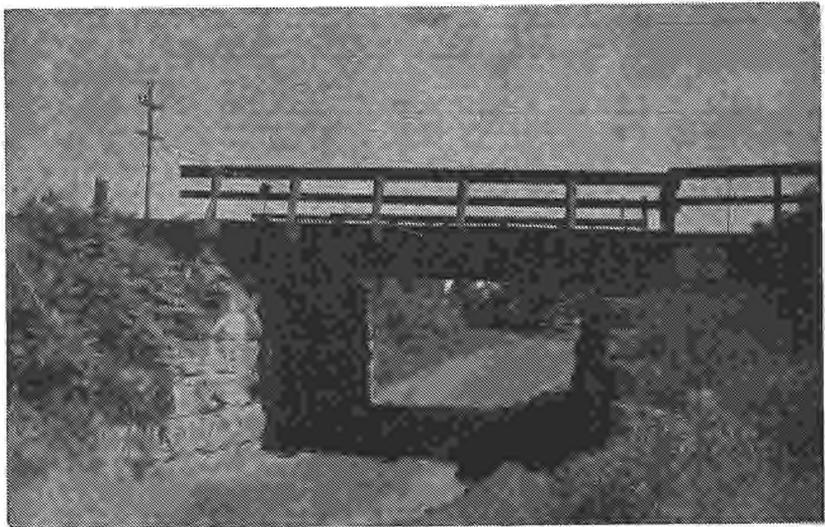
The above differences of opinion must have been strongly reflected in the Nelles - Willson families. Postmaster Robt. Nelles' sister, Jane Sophia, was married to John W. Willson, brother of Editor Hugh Willson and himself a member of the newly formed Loyal Canadian Society.

1848.. Plans for building a railroad through the district did not find our citizens unprepared. The following subscription list was dated—Grimsby, March 9th, 1848.

We whose names are hereunto Subscribed to agree to pay to Thos. Bingle the sums set opposite our Several names on the following conditions, that is to say in the event of the Great Western Rail Road Co. building their said Road from Hamilton to the Niagara River and making a Stopping place and Depot in the village of Grimsby on the lands of William Nelles being in the first Concession and Lot Number Nine, then we promise to pay the several Amounts As annexed the one half ninety days after the commencing of the Said Rail Road at the Said village and the remainder on the completion of Said Rail Road —



Bridge over railway tracks — Maple Avenue.



Culvert under railway tracks on Elizabeth street.



First railway station built over a century ago. Now the offices and warehouse of Niagara Packers.



Depot Hotel. In 1876—"The Grant House". Now stores and residence.

Names	£	-	-	Names	£	-	-
A. Fairwell	15	0	0	John W. Lewis	6	5	0
T. Bingle	12	10	0	Wm. Wilson	6	5	0
Morris Udell	6	5	0	Jon. Woolverton	6	5	0
Seth Dean	2	5	0	Dennis Palmer	5	0	0
Byard McCurdy	3	15	0	R. H. Allison	6	5	0
John D. Beamer	12	10	0	Sumner & Nelles	12	10	0
Wm. Beamer	10	0	0	Randall	10	0	0
D. Palmer	10	0	0	William Nelles	10	0	0
R. F. Nelles	12	10	0	John Nixon	6	5	0
Charles Nelles	6	5	0	G. Vandyke	6	5	0
	91	0	0		75	0	0
					91		
					£166		\$664.

The above subscription list was preserved in the papers of John W. Lewis Esq., and presented to the Grimsby Historical Society by his great-granddaughter Doris (Woolverton) Campbell.

As a result of the railway coming through Grimsby the Depot was built and Depot street was opened through William Nelles' land from the main road to the tracks. Also it is believed that Elizabeth street was opened at much the same time through Ralph Walker's property and named after his daughter, the wife of Captain Andrew Randall.

For a number of years the railroad used wood burning engines. Grimsby was a fueling station and wood contracts were let yearly by the railway to farmers for a supply of cordwood lengths. Among the largest contractors was James Russ, whose old homestead still stands on the Ridge Road. Later a Depot Hotel was built on the east side of Depot street opposite the station. It was called "The Grant House".

1849. In this year Dr. William Fitch came to Grimsby to practice. He rode into the village on horseback and his services were immediately required by Mr. Amos Farewell. He first lived in the Nelles cottage, which stood on the corner of Main and Maple Avenue. In 1852 he bought the Robt. F. Nelles residence (now 125 Main St. W.) and practiced in Grimsby and surrounding district for many years. He took a prominent part in church, school, argicultural and political affairs. He was a staunch conservative, a splendid doctor, an eloquent humorous speaker and a brilliant talented scholar. (Above notes given by his son Wm. Fitch — 'Doc'.)

1850. At the Grimsby Township Council meeting 21 January 1850 it was resolved that the Reeve be authorized to procure a Seal for the township, with a device thereon representing a book and a sheaf of wheat and lettered Grimsby Municipal Council, 1850, and to be one and a half inches in diameter. Carried.

In Booklet No. 1, Annals of The Forty, we recorded a list of marriages performed at Grimsby by Robt. Nelles, Justice of the Peace

and Rev. William Sampson of St. Andrew's church — 1796 - 1822.
We now include a list of marriages performed by Rev. A. N. Bethune
and Rev. George Grout, Rectors of St. Andrew's church from 1823 -
1850.

Daniel Barber and Jemima Sumers, Saltfleet	Nov. 25, 1823
Hiram Ferris, Niagara and Margaret Hixon	Dec. 25, 1823
Philo Wood, London Dist. and Elizabeth Lawrence, Grimsby	Mar. 2, 1824
Joseph Adair and Susannah London, Saltfleet	July 13, 1824
William Crown and Margaret Moore, Grimsby	Jan. 13, 1825
Warner H. Nelles, Grand River and Sarah Uline, Canborough	Jan. 20, 1825
Samuel Edmunds and Phoebe Dewy, Grimsby	Apr. 5, 1825
Joseph Howey, Stamford and Martha Carpenter, Saltfleet	Jan. 31, 1825
John Jones, Niagara and Hannah Jones, Louth	May 26, 1825
Jeremiah London and Phoebe Cutler, Saltfleet	July 12, 1825
Thos. Vaux and Marcia Carpenter, Saltfleet	July 19, 1825
Aaron Pettit and Rachel Biggar, Saltfleet	Aug. 18, 1825
James Smith and Sarah Brower, Saltfleet	Aug. 28, 1825
William Freeman, Nelson and Catherine Gage, Saltfleet	Oct. 13, 1825
Tenar Beach, Grimsby and Anne Cameron, Saltfleet	Oct. 19, 1825
John Freeman, Nelson, and Catherine Davis, Nelson	Nov. 10, 1825
John Barber, Thorold, and Elizabeth Gilmore, Clinton	Dec. 21, 1825
John Green, Flamborough and Sophia Green, Waterloo	Jan. 10, 1826
Ephraim Ellsworth and Susan Corwin, Clinton	Jan. 10, 1826
Bartholomew Corwin and Maria Kilborne, Clinton	Jan. 19, 1826
Peter Webster and Mary Irwin, Flamborough	Jan. 19, 1826
James Durand and Maria Rolph	Jan. 23, 1826
Major Sterling, Saltfleet and Margaret Nuton, Ancaster	Jan. 23, 1826
James Nuton and Mary Sampson, Ancaster	Feb. 27, 1826
Joseph Barry and Elizabeth Gloss, Ancaster	Apr. 18, 1826
Thomas Brown and Joanna Smith, Barton	May 15, 1826
Paul Huffman and Rachel Pettit, Saltfleet	May 25, 1826
William R. Nelles, Nelson and Mary Ann O'Reilly	June 12, 1826
George Chalmers, Trafalgar and Helen O'Reilly, Nelson	June 12, 1826
Jacob Collady and Hannah Simmons, Grimsby	June 15, 1826
Edward Gee and Esther Tapley, Saltfleet	July 19, 1826
Rev. John Ryerson, of Charlotteville London Dist. and Mary Lewis Saltfleet	Aug. 8, 1826
Brian Carpenter and Elizabeth Johnson, Grimsby	Oct. 4, 1826
Silas Vandecar, St. Catharines and Harriet Atwell, Saltfleet	Nov. 14, 1826
Benjamin Anderson and Rachel Mino, Grimsby	Oct. 8, 1826
Moses Evans, Niagara and Mary Valentine, Grimsby	Nov. 16, 1826
Jacob Kitchen, Grimsby and Jane Dennis, Clinton	Dec. 28, 1826
John Campbell and Catherine Young, Nelson	Jan. 18, 1827
Joseph Anderson, Trafalgar and Mary Moore, Grimsby	June 7, 1827
Thomas Butler Jr., Ancaster and Augusta Cockrell	Dec. 13, 1827
Isiah Wardel of Clinton and Elizabeth Culp	Jan. 23, 1828
James Black, Esquensing and Lois Humphrey, Clinton	Feb. 15, 1828
Herman Kilborne and Mary Corwin, Clinton	Mar. 12, 1828
George Couse and Sarah House, Clinton	Mar. 25, 1828
Matthew Smith, Canboro and Martha Henness, Saltfleet	Feb. 4, 1829
Robt. Hamill, Ancaster and Mary Smith, Canboro	Feb. 26, 1829
Rev. Robt. Luggar, Brantford and Elizabeth Monck, Grimsby	Apr. 20, 1829
Andrew P. Muir and Sarah Smith, Grimsby	Apr. 13, 1829
Thos. Clendennen, Louth and Mary House, Clinton	May 3, 1829
Edmund Bascomb and Lucinda Milmine, Grimsby	July 16, 1829
Charles Mullin and Mary Parker, Grimsby	July 19, 1829
Silas Smith Sr. and Mary McGee, Saltfleet	Aug. 5, 1829
James Smith and Mary Ann McDonald, Grimsby	Sept. 7, 1829

Aaron Emery of Grimsby and Catherine Pettit, Saltfleet	Dec. 2, 1829
Joseph Turney and Mary Ann Hunt, Grimsby	Jan. 1, 1830
James Hunter and Arethusia Kilborne, Clinton	Jan. 7, 1830
David Smith, Ancaster and Catherine Lymburner, Caistor	Mar. 12, 1830
Michael Markle, Clinton and Mary Murray, Grimsby	May 30, 1830
Wm. Jackson and Sarah Ann Crow, Grimsby	May 9, 1830
Mahlon Palmer and Dinah Moore, Grimsby	July 11, 1830
Reuben Oakley and Elizabeth Ingleheart, Saltfleet	Aug. 19, 1830
George M. Drake and Selenda Miller, Ancaster	Oct. 5, 1830
Joseph Pettit and Ruth Carpenter, Saltfleet	Nov. 4, 1830
Thomas Bartlett and Jean Morton, Clinton	Dec. 16, 1830
Henry Ryan, Gainsborough and Ann Parker, Saltfleet	Jan. 31, 1831
Hezekiah Fraleigh and Mary McCarty, Grimsby	Feb. 27, 1831
Philip House, Ancaster and Phoebe Lampman, Barton	Mar. 1, 1831
James McCubbin, Nelson and Maria Lee, Saltfleet	Mar. 3, 1831
Isaac Allan and Rachel Lacey, Saltfleet	Mar. 23, 1831
John Ripenburg and Catherine London, Caistor	May 30, 1831
Gideon Cante and Nancy Furlough, Pelham	June 28, 1831
Charles Nickles and Margaret Nelles, Grimsby	July 24, 1831
Francis Porter M.D. and Catherine Bingle	July 30, 1831
John Lemburger and Fredericka Laemun, Clinton	July 31, 1831
Richard Allison and Elizabeth Nixon, Grimsby	Oct. 6, 1831
Joseph Merrill and Hannah Skelly, Clinton	Oct. 20, 1831
John Smith and Margaret Walker, Grimsby	Oct. 25, 1831
James Allison and Anne Glover, Grimsby	Nov. 10, 1831
Lancelot Chase and Ann Fraleigh, Grimsby	Nov. 15, 1831
John Beers and Margaret Smith, Saltfleet	Dec. 26, 1831
John Galligan and Maria Kennedy, Grimsby	Dec. 31, 1831
Charles Lee and Eliza Ann Wurden, Saltfleet	Feb. 21, 1832
Isaac Burkholder, Saltfleet and Hannah Smith, Grimsby	Feb. 28, 1832
John Campbell, Louth and Mary Woolverton, Grimsby	Mar. 8, 1832
James Livens and Eliza Gould, Grimsby	Apr. 25, 1832
Alex. Carpenter, Saltfleet and Anna Young, Pettit, Grimsby	Apr. 26, 1832
Samuel Pew Stamford and Louisa Davis, Saltfleet	May 15, 1832
Solomon Culp, Clinton and Mary Milmine, Grimsby	July 4, 1832
Elijah Nelles and Catherine Nelles, Grimsby	July 25, 1832
William Gage and Mary Newton, Ancaster	Sept. 25, 1832
Oliver Fleming and Arvilla Thompson, Grimsby	Oct. 21, 1832
Patrick Farley and Elizabeth Anderson, Grimsby	Nov. 4, 1832
Peter Nelles, Grimsby and Mary Sumner, Clinton	Nov. 13, 1832
John Glover and Susan Dunmedes, Grimsby	Dec. 12, 1832
Andrew Pettit and Mary Muir, Grimsby	Dec. 18, 1832
John Pettit, Saltfleet and Maria Janes, Clinton	Dec. 18, 1832
Thomas McKay and Catherine Fraser, Grimsby	Jan. 23, 1833
Thos. Adams, St. Catherines and Margaret Anderson, Grimsby	Jan. 31, 1833
Jeremiah Lee and Mary Ann Pew, Saltfleet	Mar. 6, 1833
Henry Edmunds and Hannah Parker, Grimsby	Apr. 8, 1833
William Skelly, Grimsby and Amanda Kilborne, Clinton	May 3, 1833
John Walker and Margaret Durham, Clinton	May 10, 1833
Hugh Hunter, Grimsby and Mary Glover, Saltfleet	June 11, 1833
Major Sheppard and Margaret Sterling, Ancaster	Aug. 23, 1833
John Pender and Sarah Hall, Clinton	Aug. 29, 1833
Thos. Hunt and Mary Parsons, Saltfleet	Oct. 14, 1833
John Carpenter and Mary Wilson, Saltfleet	Oct. 22, 1833
Edwin Overholt and Hannah Gilmore, Clinton	Oct. 31, 1833
John Bradley, Hamilton, and Mary Patterson, Pt. Robinson	Nov. 3, 1833
Seneca Underhill and Margaret Layfield, Saltfleet	Nov. 28, 1833
Levi Lewis and Mary Pettit, Saltfleet	Jan. 7, 1834
Benjamin Johnson, Stamford and Margaret Henry, Clinton	Jan. 21, 1834
David Vansickle, Ancaster and Hannah Crowell, Louth	Jan. 22, 1834

John B. Pettit, Grimsby and Mary Carpenter, Saltfleet	Mar. 4, 1834
James Hutton, Blenheim and Gertrude Ball, Grimsby	Apr. 16, 1834
Edward Hill and Sarah Hill, Grimsby	May 15, 1834
Alpheus Milmine and Hannah Kennedy, Grimsby	May 27, 1834
John Ness and Jane Moorehouse, Grimsby	July 9, 1834
James Milne, Ancaster and Bridget Mahar, Toronto	July 8, 1834
Wm. Neville, Stamford and Pamela Davis, Saltfleet	Aug. 18, 1834
John Millward and Rachel Hunter, Grimsby	Aug. 18, 1834
John Thompson and Mary Moore, Grimsby	Sept. 4, 1834
Robert Adams and Emeline Underhill, Saltfleet	Sept. 13, 1834
Richard Biggar, Trafalgar and Mary Hunter, Grimsby	Nov. 4, 1834
John Adolphus Nelles and Morilla Pettit	Nov. 11, 1834
George Langtree Nelson and Elizabeth Smith, Grimsby	Nov. 31, 1834
Robert Donkin and Ann Stinson, London Dist.	Dec. 29, 1834
John Sturdy, St. Catharines and Mary Moorehouse, Grimsby	Feb. 17, 1835
Irvine Overholt and Mary Ann Clendennen, Clinton	Feb. 18, 1835
Samuel Bricker, Waterloo and Catherine Overholt, Clinton	Feb. 21, 1835
William Jones and Ann Crickmore, East Flamborough	Apr. 14, 1835
Henry Hixon and Frances Dunmore, Grimsby	Apr. 30, 1835
Gabriel Hopkins and Frances Crickmore, East Flamborough	May 26, 1835
Turner, Boid, St. Catharines and Carissa Valentine, Grimsby	June 18, 1835
Charles Barnes and Ann Inch	June 22, 1835
George Ousterhouse, Niagara and Rebecca Flummerfelt	July 14, 1835
John Foster, Nelson and Lavinia Smith, Grimsby	Oct. 20, 1835
Tilman Culp, Clinton and Nancy Milmine, Grimsby	Dec. 3, 1835
George Heathcote, Toronto and Agnes Thompson	Dec. 21, 1835
Thomas Racey, Dundas and Helen P. Nelles, Grimsby	Dec. 24, 1835
Richard Keenan and Martha Dean Saltfleet	July 3, 1836
George Richardson, Brantford and Mary Ann Nelles, Grimsby	Mar. 20, 1837
William Lee and Harriet Lacey, Saltfleet	June 1, 1837
Stephen Kemble and Elizabeth McKenney, Hamilton	Sept. 10, 1837
Joseph Knight and Frances Bedell, Saltfleet	Feb. 5, 1838
Walter Osterhaut, Louth and Elizabeth Pickard, Pelham	Mar. 4, 1838
John Nixon and Mary Moore, Grimsby	May 22, 1838
John Durham, Clinton and Martha Moore, Grimsby	June 5, 1838
Isiah Churchill and Mary Freel, Saltfleet	July 9, 1838
Joseph Moe and Mary Carrick, Saltfleet	July 20, 1838
George Hewson, Caistor and Lydia Carter, Grimsby	Aug. 5, 1838
John Lovely, Saltfleet and Catherine Durham, Binbrook	Sept. 19, 1838
William C. Smith, Saltfleet and Ann Barnes, Grimsby	Dec. 11, 1838
Jeremiah Smith, Saltfleet and Mary Smith, Grimsby	Feb. 26, 1839
Asa Smith, Grimsby and Eliza Smith, Saltfleet	Apr. 2, 1839
William Hollinshed and Ann Manson, Saltfleet	Apr. 2, 1839
William Pettit, Grimsby and Mary Nixon	Apr. 4, 1839
Jonathan Carpenter, Saltfleet and Sarah Pettit	May 4, 1839
Peter Jacobs and Sarah Rowe, Grimsby	May 19, 1839
George Doody, Clinton and Isabella Daughety, Grimsby	May 13, 1839
Warren Adams and Amanda Persons, Flamborough	July 13, 1839
Charles Pettit and Sarah Dunmedes, Saltfleet	Sept. 5, 1839
Isaac Smith, Saltfleet and Hannah Pettit, Binbrook	Sept. 10, 1839
John Wilks, Hamilton and Helena Clink, Saltfleet	Sept. 21, 1839
John Lee and May Ann Pettit, Saltfleet	Jan. 22, 1840
Dr. Ferris, St. Catharines and Margaret Nelles, Grimsby	Feb. 11, 1840
John Pettit and Harriet Bedell, Saltfleet	Feb. 14, 1840
James G. Pettit and Henrietta Smith	Apr. 14, 1840
Amos Chambers and Sarah Glover, Saltfleet	Apr. 18, 1840
John Soper and Orvilla Bond, Grimsby	June 13, 1840
Michael Laffee and Anne Felker, Saltfleet	Dec. 9, 1840
Richard Lacey and Elizabeth Lipset, Saltfleet	Feb. 17, 1841
William Lloyd and Abba Ann Cooly, Gainsborough	Mar. 1, 1841

Henry Eliot and Sarah Coplin, Grimsby	Mar. 11, 1841
Ontario Stevens and Elizabeth A. Nelles, Grimsby	Oct. 4, 1841
Hugh Anderson and Jane Cutler, Grimsby	Nov. 17, 1841
Silas Cooper and Jane Hewson, Caistor	Feb. 23, 1842
John Wilson, Saltfleet and Jane Sophia Nelles, Grimsby	Mar. 16, 1842
Jacob Forbes and Martha Pettit, Saltfleet	Apr. 21, 1842
Joseph DeWitt and Ann Dean, Clinton	Sept. 11, 1842
George Vandyke and Dinah House, Grimsby	Oct. 9, 1842
Allan Nixon and Elizabeth Tallman	Nov. 8, 1842
James Ruthven, Hamilton and Frances Matilda Nelles, Grimsby	Dec. 24, 1842
Isaac Lewis and Sydney Barnes, Grimsby	Feb. 11, 1843
Nicholas House and Rachel Bellingier, Clinton	Mar. 3, 1843
Edward McNiven and Phoebe Bradshaw, Hamilton	May 23, 1843
Robert Murray and Eliza Gurney, Grimsby	Sept. 20, 1843
William Zimmerman and Lucy Durham, Clinton	Jan. 25, 1844
John W. Lewis and Sarah Nixon, Grimsby	July 2, 1844
Wm. McMaster, Colborne Dist. and Jane Sumner, Clinton	Aug. 7, 1844
Rev. James L. Alexander and Emilia Nelles, Grimsby	Aug. 15, 1844
Benjamin Freeman and Rosa Green, Saltfleet	Sept. 30, 1844
Charles Hunt and Elizabeth Knight, Grimsby	Oct. 16, 1844
John McMaster, Streetsville and Ann Sumner, Clinton	Jan. 1, 1845
James Hindson and Lavinia Balls	Jan. 1, 1845
Joseph Carpenter and Elizabeth Pettit, Saltfleet	Feb. 12, 1845
Byard McCurdy and Anne Walker, Grimsby	Apr. 29, 1845
John Adolphus Nelles and Helen Sumner, Clinton	Apr. 24, 1845
Walter Sumner and Olivia Nelles	Apr. 24, 1845
Dennis Nixon and Mary Catherine Pettit	May 6, 1845
Robert Henry Nixon and Catherine Bouslaugh	May 6, 1845
John Kirby, Flamborough and Harriet Isabelle Nelles, Grimsby	June 10, 1845
Daniel Durham and Elizabeth Konkle, Clinton	Aug. 17, 1845
John P. Ballachy and Louisa M. Gurney	Sept. 16, 1845
Samuel Lightfoot, Louth and Ellen Wilkerson, Grimsby	Dec. 21, 1845
Andrew McFarland and Maria Walker, Grimsby	Dec. 30, 1845
Joseph Tisdale, Brantford and Rachel Carpenter, Saltfleet	Apr. 2, 1846
James Hill and Sarah Ann Carpenter, Saltfleet	May 26, 1846
Elam Masales and Emma Balls, Grimsby	Aug. 25, 1846
James Henry, Grimsby and Amanda Zimmerman, Clinton	Oct. 21, 1846
Ralph Walker and Maria Pettit, Grimsby	Nov. 3, 1846
Alfred Booker and Eliza Anne Pettit, Grimsby	June 8, 1847
Frederick Ball, Louth and Mary Ellen Smith, Toronto	July 29, 1847
Thomas Bingle and Esther Catherine Nixon, Grimsby	Sept. 15, 1847
William Henry and Mary Terryberry, Grimsby	Oct. 20, 1847
Stephen Burke and Elizabeth Duncan, Dunville	Oct. 28, 1847
John Gross and Frances Pearson, Saltfleet	Apr. 18, 1848
Daniel Cole and Helen Eliza Wentworth, Grimsby	Apr. 23, 1848
William Book and Sophia Stevenson, Grimsby	May 10, 1848
Joseph Chambers and Fanny Mosier, Grimsby	May 17, 1848
Israel Snyder, Clinton and Mary Henry, Grimsby	Aug. 23, 1848
Elijah Smith and Maria Louisa Bedell, Saltfleet	Oct. 3, 1848
Robert Biggar, Saltfleet and Sarah Maria Pettit, Grimsby	Oct. 4, 1848
David Conway and Celista Lee, Saltfleet	Oct. 10, 1848
George Book and Anne Jane Fraleigh, Grimsby	Oct. 10, 1848
James P. Biggar, Trafalgar and Priscilla Clement	Feb. 27, 1849
Dwight Crovier and Helany Wilks	Mar. 23, 1849
Jonathan R. Pettit, Grimsby and Martha Jane Smith, Saltfleet	Apr. 24, 1849
Thomas Graham, Woodhouse and Elizabeth Sumner, Clinton	May 15, 1849

The marriages in 1849 were the last ones performed by Rev. George Grout as he died in that year.

From 1822 to 1841 marriage licences were issued by Henry Nelles, postmaster and merchant and from 1842-1848 by his son Robert F. Nelles.

1851-1852 **Smith's Canada** published in these years contains a directory of business and professional men in Canada. It gives the following description of Grimsby:—

Grimsby or The Forty, a village situated in the township of Grimsby, County of Lincoln, Canada West. Distance from Hamilton 17 miles. Usual stage fare 5 shillings.

To the business and professional men of Grimsby listed in Smith's a few names have been added and arranged in alphabetical order with notes given to the compiler by old historian, Doc Fitch.

Allison, Richard	A carriage maker. He owned the lot west of the Upper Bridge and had evidently just purchased the Nelles grist mill.
Bailey & Cook	General Merchants. The Bailey store was on the east side of Main Street west, opposite the United Church. He lived in the old Green house which Doc. Fitch called the 'Three door frame'.
Balls, Thomas	Butcher.
Beamer, John D.	Miller and farmer, son of John Beamer, who built the saw-mill above Beamer's Falls.
Bingle, Thomas	Merchant, he had a dry goods and grocery store just west of the present postoffice. It was destroyed by fire.
Davids, Rev. B. A.	Curate of St. Andrew's Church.
Dean, Seth	Miller. He had a saw-mill on the north side of the Roman Catholic Church on Patton street.
Delange, Gabriel	Cooper. Probably had the shop at the foot of the mountain mentioned in the Act for opening a new road up the hill.
Drake, Nobel	Shoemaker. His shop was on the site of the present postoffice.
Farewell, James	Grainshipper and merchant. He had a shop on the north-east corner of Main and Depot.
Farmer, William	Tailor. He lived where the Grimsby House stands today. It is said that he was a great musician.
Fitch, William M.D.	His residence was on the corner of Main and Gibson Ave.
Hagar, George	Butcher. His shop was on Depot street.
Hindson, James	Tailor. He worked with Bailey in the drygoods shop.
Kenith, Jacob	Cabinet maker.
Kimble, Samuel	Miller. He lived near Allison's Grist mill (now 11 Gibson Ave.) He met death by drowning.
Lundy, Rev. F. J.	Rector of St. Andrew's Church.
Morgan, Richard	Hotel Keeper. He had been a waiter at the Welland House, St. Catharines.
Murphy, William	Mason. He lived on top of the escarpment and built the stone wall in front of the Fitch residence.
Nelles, P. B. & J. A.	Owners of the saw-mill at entry to Forty Pond.

O'Farrel, Patrick	Mason. The ancestor of the Farrel family in Grimsby. He built the stone house on north Elizabeth street.
Palmer, Dennis	Owned a foundry in a building just east of the house— (now 177 Main St. W.) He was in partnership with John Grout.
Peat, George	Shoemaker, worked with Nobel Drake in this business.
Randall, Andrew	Innkeeper, Owner of Mansion House.
Udell, Morris	Owner of Cypress Inn. Distiller and brewer.
Vandyke, John	Wheelwright. He had a shop on Depot street.
Woolverton, Jonathan M.D.	His place of residence was on the north side of Main street (the home of Mrs. McIntyre and offices of Dr. McKenzie).

1852. In December of this year Morris Udell sold Cypress Inn to St. Andrew's church as a rectory for the Rev. Dr. Lundy. This large building stood on the site of the present Grimsby Wines Ltd., Main Street West and was destroyed by fire in the 1920's.

Dr. Lundy, although a controversial figure in the time he lived in Grimsby, was a learned gentleman and scholar. As well as in the religious sphere he was active in the school, agricultural and social interests in the community.

1853. The first railway train ran through Grimsby over the newly completed section of track from Hamilton to Niagara Falls. It was the Great Western Railway, afterwards the Grand Trunk; now part of the Canadian National Railways system.

On the 13th of October, 1853 the Loyal Canadian Society joined the procession to Queenston to assist in removing the remains of the lamented General Brock to their final resting place on Queenston Heights.

1854. The Annual meeting of the Grimsby township Agricultural Society was held at A. Randall's Hotel on Saturday, 21 January, when the following persons were elected to office:— Mr. Dennis Nixon, President; J. P. Bridgeman Esq., Vice Pres.; J. A. Nelles, Secretary and Treasurer; Ezra Oill, J. W. Book, George Adams, Courtland White, John Ness, Jonathan R. Pettit, Brock Palmer, Samuel Russ, George Muir Jr. were appointed Directors.

1855. During the years of the Russian Crimean War the farmers of this district profited by the high prices paid for grain which was shipped overseas. The price of wheat quoted by one grain grower, Sylvester Smith of Winona, was \$1.85 per bushel. It is also recorded that in 1855 one merchant, James Farewell of Grimsby shipped 80,000 bushels of wheat from a single pier at Grimsby. (Prospectus — Grimsby Harbor.)

1856. Prosperity of the farmers increased building in the community. Captain Andrew Randall built the 'Malacoff' building next to his Mansion House. It was so called after one of the Sebastopol Towers.

A part of this building is standing today. Another brick building 'The Redan' stood on the northeast corner of Main and Depot streets. It was destroyed by fire.

Grimsby had a band and band-waggon in 1856. The red waggon cost \$600 and when in use was drawn by four horses. It was kept in McFarlane's barn on Mountain street (rear of Grimsby Fuel and Supply).

The Band Master was John Adolphus Nelles; George Nixon, Robert, John and Joseph Moore all played instruments, Jesse Lawrence played the bass horn, Marvin Farewell beat the drum and John DuVal, Sr. drove the outfit. This was in use on all festive occasions.

1856. Grimsby Agricultural Works were established by John H. Grout, on what is now the site of the Baptist Church. It burned down in 1879 and the next foundry was built on the corner of Main and Oak streets with town bell on top (building recently demolished). John Grout and Dennis Palmer were partners for some time, date not recorded. Palmer's foundry was just east of his residence, the Brick cottage on Main Street west (now 177 Main W.). At this time the implements exhibited at Agricultural Shows were in the names of Grout & Palmer.

1856. First Commercial Peach Orchards planted in this district.

It is recorded that the first commercial peach orchards were planted by Charles Woolverton and A. M. Smith in this year. The trees had evidently been grown in a nursery on Charles Woolverton's farm — Lot 16, Conc. I and II, Grimsby township. This nursery was called The Grimsby Nurseries. A. M. Smith was also in the nursery business, working with Dr. Beadle in establishing a St. Catherines Nursery. It is also recorded that in the winter of 1856-1857 severe frost destroyed the tender fruits in this part of the province particularly the peach, plum and cherry, while apple and pear trees were greatly damaged. Entire peach orchards had to be replanted. This undoubtedly set the growing of peaches in the Niagara district back for a number of years.

1857. First Grammar School established in Grimsby.

On the 4th of February 1857 a group of gentlemen assembled in Grimsby as a board of trustees to open a Grimsby Grammar school. Dr. Woolverton was elected Chairman, Rev. J. English, Secretary Treasurer. At this meeting it was decided that the fee for the common English branches of education be \$6, while for the higher branches, including geometry and the classics be \$8. In both cases the sum was payable quarterly in advance.

David Campbell, who had been a teacher of a private school in Niagara, was appointed Headmaster at yearly salary of \$165 Halifax Currency. Upon presentation of the treasurer's receipt for fees Mr. Campbell admitted pupils who had been previously examined by himself, Dr. Woolverton, Rev. J. English and Dr. Lundy. These gentlemen

also selected the text-books that were used. The daily exercises of the school were opened, as provided by the common school act, with a reading of a portion of the scripture and a prayer.

The school was opened immediately after the Easter holidays, 1857, with twelve pupils in attendance. Following a petition by the board of trustees the County of Lincoln granted a sum of money to help defray expenses. It was not until March 30, 1858, that girls were admitted. Dr. Woolverton granted the use of a room free of rent for educational purposes. School was next held in the Malakoff building and later in 1859 three rooms in the new Town Hall were used for a Grammar school.

Mr. David Campbell lived in a house on Elizabeth street. In the summer months he spent his holidays at the Palmer home on top of the escarpment. He had a garden there which for many years was called "Campbell's Patch" by the family. (This note provided by Miss Jessie Palmer.)

1857. A market list of prices taken from the Hamilton Gazette of this year indicates that grains in particular were selling at a higher price than usual:—

Flour	per bbl	£2	10s	0d	about \$12.00
Wheat	per bushel		9	4½	2.25
Butter	per lb.		1	4	.32
Barley	per bushel		5	0	1.25
Oats	per bushel		2	6	.60
Potatoes	per bushel		3	6	.84
Beef	100 lbs	1	10	0	7.26
Pork		2	0	0	9.72
Mutton	per lb	0	0	4½	.09
Ham & Bacon	per lb	0	0	6	.12
Beef	per lb	0	0	6	.12
Veal	per lb	0	0	5	.10
Eggs	per Doz.	0	1	4	.32
Hay	per ton				17.00

1857. Travelling Circus Shows.

In the summer of this year a Circus with three side-shows visited the village of Smithville. It is recorded in the Grimsby Township Council minutes that the Council received the sum of 8 pounds, 15 shillings for allowing the Show.

1858. Toll Gates.

It has not yet been established when the Toll Gates were first used on some roads in Grimsby Township. There were four of them. One on each side of Grimsby village on the Queenston Stone road (No. 8 Highway) One on top of the escarpment at Grimsby and one near Smithville on the Grimsby-Smithville road.

The gates were first mentioned in the Grimsby Township Council meeting early in 1858 when it was decided that notices were to be printed and posted stating that the Toll Gates on the Grimsby-

Smithville road were to be rented for one year and that tenders for the same would be received by the Clerk of Grimsby township until the 2nd March. On the 27th of March it was found that George Grant had tendered for Gate No. I and Thomas Laffe for Gate No. II and their tenders were accepted on giving necessary security.

Two years later 20 March, 1860, these Toll Gates were closed and removed. One of the Toll Houses, standing close to the Palmer homestead was sold to Brock Palmer, moved close to his house and used as a tool shop for many years. Miss Jessie Palmer who recounted this item said it was a small oblong frame building with windows on all sides. **1858.** W. W. Kitchen, one of Grimsby's native sons, bought from Squire John Pettit's estate — Lot 12, Concs. I and II — land on the



Type of Toll Gate and House used in this district.

west side of Cypress Creek. He was a most enterprising gentleman for not only did he engage in breeding cattle and swine, in raising grain and seed crops but he planted a large grapery and orchards and became one of our first fruit growers.

1859. Town Hall and Grammar School.

Land was given by the William Nelles Estate on Depot street on which to build a Town Hall and Grammar school. A subscription list was presented to the citizens of Grimsby and Grimsby township as follows:—

Grimsby 22nd June, 1859

Subscribers	Amounts Subscribed	Amts to be Collected	Remarks
Peter B. Nelles	\$50.00	\$12.50	pd \$13.00
J. Woolverton	50.00	12.50	
W. K. Sumner	50.00	12.50	when called for
Willson & Allison			
Jacob Kitchen	25.00	6.25	pd in full
Jacob Book	20.00	5.00	pd in full
John B. Bowslaugh	20.00	5.00	paid
Dennis Nixon	20.00	5.00	
Chas. E. Woolverton	25.00	6.25	
Caleb Marlatt	20.00	5.00	pd in full
Jacob Bowslaugh	20.00	5.00	
J. R. Pettit	25.00	6.25	
J. A. Nelles	25.00	6.25	pd in timber
J. A. Nelles	20.00	5.00	pd.
J. D. Beamer	25.00	6.25	
William Rogers	20.00	5.00	
William Konkle	20.00	5.00	pd 1st 2nd
William Beamer	20.00	5.00	
Dennis Palmer	15.00	3.75	
R. H. Nixon	15.00	3.75	
Charles Nelles	15.00	3.75	
Charles Moore	12.00	3.00	pd 1st - 2nd
John Cline	15.00	3.75	
Andrew Pettit	10.00	2.50	
J. H. Pettit	10.00	2.50	
D. Woolverton	10.00	2.50	
Johnson Pettit	10.00	2.50	
Isaac Smith	10.00	2.50	
Jacob Biggar	10.00	2.50	
James Inglehart	10.00	2.50	
John Foster	10.00	2.50	
Wm. Bowslaugh	10.00	2.50	
G. S. Nixon	10.00	2.50	
Ebenezer Cline	10.00	2.50	
John Walker	10.00	2.50	
Isaac Walker	10.00	2.50	
Jonathan Muir	10.00	2.50	
Andrew Muir	10.00	2.50	
John Nixon	10.00	2.50	
Thomas R. Hunter	10.00	2.50	
Brock Palmer	10.00	2.50	
Conrad Teeter	10.00	2.50	
John Book	10.00	2.50	paid in full
William Book	10.00	2.50	pd.
George Maybee	10.00	2.50	pd 1st
J. D. Fitch	10.00	2.50	pd 1st - 2nd
John Beamer	10.00	2.50	
John W. Smith	10.00	2.50	
N. F. Drake	10.00	2.50	pd 1st
Isaac Durham	10.00	2.50	pd.
J. W. Peat	4.00	1.00	
J. F. Calder	5.00	1.25	
Messrs A. & G. Coles	10.00	2.50	pd this week
T. C. Brownjohn			
Thos. Bingle			

The above subscription list belonged to Samuel A. Nelles of Lake Lodge. A footnote states:— "Sir, The section which you will collect in is from the Bridge over the 40 Mile Creek to the eastern limit of Grimsby under the mountain."

All of the lumber used in the above building was hand hewn and kiln dried. The carpenter's work was done free gratis by Wm. Wilson and the mason work by Patrick Farrel. Peter Nelles was one of the Trustees.

1859. May 4, a Conservative convention was held in St. Catharines. John Walker of Clinton was Chairman. Delegates chosen from Grimsby were John Foster, Jonathan R. Pettit, G. Brant, John Nixon and Dr. Fitch. The above item was taken from the St. Catharines Constitutional and in the same issue there appeared a notice termed — **Rather Fishy**—

We are requested to state that the story trumped up through a local sheet by R.R.J. (alias J.W.L.) of Grimsby relative to the remarks of Dr. Fitch at the moderate meeting held in that place is destitute of truth in almost every particular. We pity the man who can stoop so low as to maliciously misrepresent his neighbor.

1859. Politics in Grimsby one hundred years ago! And for others who sought amusement and excitement the following details recorded in the journal of Dr. Lundy, Rector of St. Andrew's church tell of other diversions for old and young alike.

August 3rd. Several citizens went to Niagara Falls to see Monsieur Blondin walk the rope across the river.

August 4th. A Circus paid a visit to the village and we all attended. Nov. 4th. A Panorama came to Grimsby at Randall's. Pictures of the Thames, England, Switzerland, India, Genoa, Naples were shown. Very good. They were painted by a man named Granger at Niagara.

1859. Lincoln County Agricultural Show At Grimsby — October 14, 1859.

The Annual Fair for this County was held last Friday in Grimsby. The weather was most favorable and the attendance very large. The show was excellent and the numerous entries evinced the steadily increasing usefulness of these exhibitions; in proof of which we may add, that the entries exceeded those of last year by 400, 1013 being recorded by the Secretary. There were six span of carriage horses shown, and 8 span of team Horses; 9 span for general purposes and 13 buggy Horses, so that it will be seen this department was well up.

The show of cattle was also large; Mr. J. R. Pettit alone exhibiting 18 head of Grade Cattle and 12 head of Leicester Sheep! He took several prizes, as may be seen by the list and deserves great credit for his enterprize; for it is admitted generally that he keeps the finest herd of Grade Cattle in the County. His sheep are also of good quality and added much to the general character of the fine show in this class.

The Swine were prodigies in their way, those of S. Bradley and W. W. Kitchen being particularly remarked; but the Poultry, though some large and small breeds were shown, were not so well represented as we expected to see them.

In Grains, Seeds, Roots and Field Products, however, this trifling defect was more than compensated for, and the beholder could not look upon the varieties grouped together without feeling pride and satisfaction at the high agricultural success they evinced.

D. Nixon's contributions alone were a little show in themselves—Cabbages 27 lbs each — 204 lbs large Potatoes, the yield of one — with fruit, tobacco and roots of various kinds entitled him to be classed among the most enterprising. We also observed some fine examples of field crops by J. S. Walker, Clinton; W. J. Parnell, Grantham; W. H. Read, Port Dalhousie; J. Nixon and Rev. Dr. Lundy, Grimsby and numerous others, but we regret not having space to particularize more fully.

The dairy products were excellent; the cheeses by Messrs Marlatt and Kitchen especially deserving notice.

Agricultural implements were not numerous yet on the grounds could be seen some creditable specimens. Palmer and Grout's improved Mower and their Stump Extractor were admired; and A. Harris of Beamsville exhibited a Corn Sheller of excellent workmanship and design.

The Domestic contributions were numerous and very tastefully displayed in the **new Town Hall** by the local committee.

Disher's cloth as usual took the lead; and J. B. Hainer followed with some very good home made cloth. The home made carpets J. Pettit and L. H. Bessey were among the successful and very deservedly so.

In fruit not only D. Nixon but C. Woolverton, W. D. Kitchen, J. Durham, W. H. Read and A. M. Smith carried off prizes.

In the Ladies Department everything was so tasteful and deserving, that we wondered at the temerity of the judges in pretending to discriminate; we dare not do it.

Among the discretionary prizes, a Hair Tree by Miss Gregory, and some architectural plans by T. C. Brownjohn attracted much attention; as did the Portrait and Landscape Paintings of D. Bell and Miss Bridgeman, an Observatory Bee-hive of J. Kilborn and an ingeniously-constructed 8-day clock by H. Lohrman.

The officers of the Society were on the alert to have everything in good order. The worthy President, J. C. Rykert, Esq., figured largely among the successful competitors. Too much praise cannot be awarded to the gentlemen who exerted themselves so strenuously for the improvement of our agricultural interests; and their hands should be held up by every man having the good of the County at heart.

The Dinner.

On the successful competitors being proclaimed by the Secretary, the next business was to regale the inner man with the sumptuous viands prepared by Host Randall, whose efforts in the cuisine department were really excellent and deserving of all praise. We have partaken of many good agricultural dinners but never one that elicited more general commendation than this; which comprised everything that heart or palate could desire, served up in the most inviting style.

J. C. Rykert Esq., President headed the table, with W. Junkin Esq. Pres. of the Grantham Agricultural Society on his right hand and J. T. Kerby, Esq., Deputy-Sheriff on his left; while J. W. Lewis Esq.,

Vice-Pres. discharged his duties at the foot most effectively. The company mustered about one hundred gentlemen.

After the edibles had been sufficiently discussed, the cloth was removed, and the President briefly introduced the standard toasts with appropriate remarks, of course the first was—

"The Queen" — drunk with all the honors. National Anthem by G. Brant and the company.

"Prince Albert and the Royal Family". Song by Mr. Kerby.

"The Governor General" enthusiastically received. Song by Mr. Brant, "In the downhill of life".

"The Army and the Navy". Neatly responded to by Major Bate of the St. Catharines Cavalry. Song by Mr. Junkin Esq., "Rule Britannia".

The Vice-President then proposed "The Agricultural Interests of Lincoln", introducing the toast with some well timed observations on the display of stock and products they had that day witnessed. Replied to by Mr. J. Hamilton and W. Junkin Esq., the latter complimenting the people of Grimsby on the success of the exhibition, and promising that if the next Show was held in St. Catharines, the wise men of the East would endeavour to beat those of the West if possible. Mr. J's speech was a very happy effort and, like all his after dinner orations, was brief, yet closely to the point. Song — "The Monks of Old."

"The President of the County Agricultural Society" was next proposed and heartily pledged in a bumper, followed by the chorus, "For he's a right good fellow".

Mr. Rykert responded and in the course of his remarks alluded to the late Provincial Fair at Kingston, contrasting it with the County Show just held, which latter, he said, was in many respects fully equal and in a few particulars decidedly superior. He regretted that Lincoln did not aim at a higher position and contribute more generally in these Provincial Fairs which were looked upon as a guiding pattern of agricultural prosperity. At Kingston Lincoln had but two or three competitors present yet these were enabled to carry off some 11 or 12 prizes. The County stood foremost in the agricultural statistics of Canada and contributed more money for prizes than even the wealthy counties of Wentworth and York; yet he was frequently asked if Lincoln was not retrograding, because its agriculturalists so seldom moved beyond their own borders to compete with other parts of the Province. This, he said, should not be so; and if they consulted their true interests, it would never be said again. He also dwelt at some length on the necessity of increased effort being put forward to introduce more generally thorough-bred stock, assuring them that though it might entail extra outlay at first, the returns would be richly remunerative. He concluded by giving — "The President and officers of the Grimsby Agricultural Society", which was followed up with a capital song by Mr. McFarland — "The Stormy Winds" and an appropriate response from J. W. Lewis, Esq.

"The Agricultural, Commercial and Manufacturing Interests of Canada" was then proposed by N. H. Pawling Esq., of Louth; and acknowledged in an excellent speech from J. B. Osborne Esq., of Beamsville. His remarks were well delivered, well received, and contained much sound practical sense. He seemed well acquainted with

his subject and the manner in which he handled it left little room for others to follow.

"The Successful Competitors" came next and was ably responded to by Dr. Lundy and Jonathan R. Pettit Esq.

"The Unsuccessful Competitors" followed and was responded to by Dr. Fitch in a very humorous and mirth provoking speech. The doctor is a host in himself at fun.

"The Judges" was responded to by N. H. Pawling Esq.

"The Ladies" was neatly taken care of by Mr. John H. Pettit, followed by a good old side-splitting song from Mr. Brant.

"The Host and Hostess" was responded to by Mr. Randall, closing with "Auld Lang Syne".

This brought the evening's labors to a close; and after mutual congratulations on the favorable results of the day, the company separated for their respective homes, all hoping that the next County Show will equal in general features the one now under notice.

One Hundred Years Ago

The above article was secured from the St. Catharines Constitutional, Oct. 19th, 1859. We have not included the detailed lists of exhibits and prizes but have copied in the rest of the event because from this we can glean information about the people of Grimsby and district and farming conditions of one hundred years ago.

We note that in the fruit department no peaches, cherries or plums were shown from any part of Lincoln County. This verifies the account given earlier that these varieties of fruit trees were killed in the severe winter of 1856-1857. However, Water Melons, Musk Melons and Citrons were exhibited. In the Root and Field Crops department Tobacco leaf and Syrup from Chinese Sugar Cane were listed. And in the Discretionary Department such items as Sugar Cane, Maple Sugar, Sweet Potatoes, Cape Broccoli, Egg-Fruit, Egg Plant and Peppers and, believe it or not, a Cotton Plant exhibited by Eli Gregory! Who can say that our farmers of 1859 did not use their land for experimental purposes? And not only for agricultural pursuits as the following heading indicates:—

1860. Grimsby Going in For Oil.

The people of Grimsby have recently become considerably excited by the discovery of strong indications of oil or petroleum in the vicinity of the village and a company has already been formed under the name of the **Grimsby Petroleum and Saline Co.** to bore a drill for the two-fold purpose of finding oil and obtaining saline water with a view to the establishment of Salt Works in the village. Many of our Hamilton friends have, we understand, taken stock in this enterprise and two at least of our citizens are directors of the company. We hope our Grimsby neighbors will realize their most sanguine expectations and strike oil.

There is little or no doubt of their finding an abundance of mineral water suitable for making salt; this alone will amply remunerate

the company for their expenditures. We also see by the Prospectus that it is the intention of the company to establish mineral baths such as those in St. Catharines. The locality of Grimsby is admirably suited for such an enterprise and in case of success, even in this particular, will no doubt become a successful rival of the now far-famed St. Catharines Mineral Baths.

The above item taken from an old scrap book bears no date except to say — Taken from a Hamilton Paper about 1860. Grimsby historians have never found the above mentioned 'Prospectus' or any further account of this Grimsby venture excepting a verse found in the same scrap book, which we are inclined to believe applies to one of the promoters of this oil company:—

PETROLEUM

The evening dew's were falling fast
As through a Canadian village sped
A man who bore through day and night
The banner with the letters bright—
Petroleum!

His bright red face and blossom nose
With clear and radiant luster glows
As from his throat doth come the wail
That echoes far o'er hill and dale—
Petroleum!

In hotel gay he sees the light
Of glowing fires shine warm and bright
On happy groups he turns his eye
And from his lips will break the cry—
Petroleum!

The lessee on his couch of straw
Dreams of the banner that he saw
And still upon his listening ear
Sounds out the voice so loud and clear—
Petroleum!

1860. In the summer of 1860 the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) visited Canada and when his train passed through Grimsby a large number of our brethern of the Masonic Lodge met at the station to honor him as he was at that time Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of England.

(History of Union Lodge No. 7 A.F. & A.M.
Compiled by E. J. Marsh.)

1860. On the 14th day of April the Grimsby Township Council records the following item:— "Twenty-Six dollars was granted out of the funds of the Council to furnish the Town Hall at Grimsby and at Smithville with Chairs and Tables for the use of the township.

1860. Grand Ball at Grimsby.

On Thursday Evening the Loyal Canadian Society propose giving a Grand Ball. A number of invitations have been forwarded to Gentlemen in this city and from the well known character of the courtesy and

good management we think we may safely promise all who can make it convenient to attend, a pleasant evening.

Hamilton Daily Spectator and Journal
24 October, 1860.

1861. Loyal Canadian Society's Dinner at Grimsby.

This interesting Annual Union took place at Randall's Hotel Grimsby on Monday evening last and proved, as we anticipated, a pleasant social gathering.

During the day the village presented quite a gay appearance. Flags and streamers fluttered in the breeze from many house-tops and the **Grimsby Band** discoursed its sweetest strains of martial music on the balmy air.

After dinner speeches followed. John Nixon, the President of the society occupied the chair. Toasts to the Queen, Prince Consort, the Royal family, the Governor-General, the Army and Navy were proposed and responded to in fitting manner.

The memory of Sir Isaac Brock was received and drunk in solemn silence.

The first settlers of Canada was replied to by Mr. William Sumner in his happiest vein.

Mr. Biggar gave "Our connection with Great Britain — may it never be severed". Mr. Biggar remarked that every Canadian be he native or naturalized must feel pride and pleasure in knowing that Canada still continued an integral part of the British Empire and he believed that this feeling had grown stronger year after year since the rebellion of '37 and the lamentable state of affairs on the other side of the frontier, he hoped would teach "annexationists" and lookers to Washington an important lesson.

(St. Catherines Constitutional, 17 Oct., 1861)

1862. Queen's Regiments Enliven Grimsby.

Due to the lamentable state of affairs (Civil War) mentioned above, Queen Victoria became concerned for the safety of Canada and the British government sent additional troops to Canada. Among the first to arrive was the Prince Consort's Own Rifle Brigade. This regiment was stationed in Hamilton in February, 1862. They were in command of Lord A. G. Russell. Later No. 2 Company in command of Captain Fred Carl Playne and No. 10 Company in command of Capt. Richard Tyron encamped at Grimsby for the summer months. Other officers stationed here were Lieutenants Gerald (Nip) Doyle, John Allaire and Lord A. P. Cecil.

The Rev. Francis Lundy, Rector of St. Andrew's Church was appointed Chaplain to the Regiment and it is from his journal and the diary of Ensign Anthony Cope of the P.C.O. that the following Excerpts have been taken.

1862. May 18th. Troop Service in the Church. Two hundred people attended.

May 20th. Rifle practice at the Camp. We lunched with the officers in their "Bowery".

This "Leafy Bowery" is mentioned on several occasions. The camp was in the woods near the lake shore on the west side of the Forty Creek, and the Rifle Range was nearby. Ensign Cope writes about the training in the Musketry Camp, revolver practice, parades, cricket matches, games, boating etc.



Three officers of the Prince Consort's Rifle Brigade display their fine uniforms. Their camp was on Lake Ontario, Grimsby—1862-1863.

Pig Chasing. Camp Grimsby, July 15, 1862.

"I was awfully stiff this morning from sleeping on the ground in very damp things. Everything was damp because it had been pouring all night and had come through the tent tremendously. I was wet to the skin but nevertheless slept. Playne woke me up about 5 a.m. and we walked down to the pier and bathed. There is no sleeping here after 5 a.m. as they are shooting within 20 yards of our tent. Jolly bathing. We took headers off the top of the wood on the pier about 20 feet high. The water was cold.

Tremendous showers all day. When it does rain in this country it rain 'Cats and Dogs'. I never saw it rain so hard in England.

Boyle, Johnny, Tom Tryon and Major S. made a crusade against the pigs that are always running into our tents and making themselves generally obnoxious. We had a grand run. We separated one old pig from the rest and he went at a killing pace straight across country. We ran a zig-zag course to the bathing place where we ran into him. Tom caught him by the legs and threw him over on his back.

Boyle and Johnny were thrown out at the first hill so Tom and I were the only fellows there and the pig was too heavy to carry so we dragged him along the grass towards the camp but could not get him up the last hill to the mess, so we let him go.

We were in an awful mess having fallen down about twenty times in the mud and having run through a small river. I had not run so hard for a long time.

The small river was probably the Forty Creek. Ensign Cope was sorry to leave Grimsby. His company was being replaced by another one from his regiment in Hamilton. He describes his last day and night in Grimsby:—

1862 August 18th.

We began shooting early this morning so that all the shooting was over at 11:30. The games went off very well until 6 p.m. There was one capital race — Colour sergeants blindfolded wheeling their Captains in wheelbarrows. Brady and Bunbury won. Brady upset Bunbury twice but managed to pick him up again and got in first. Great excitement!

After the race was over all officers went down to the lake and bathed and then we had an enormous fire to commemorate our last night in Grimsby.

We left Grimsby by the 11.25 train. Old Lundy came down to the station to see us off. I am very sorry indeed to leave Grimsby. I enjoyed myself immensely while I was down there and am sorry to leave Bobbin and Chattie. We had lots of ladies' society while we were there and very nice ladies too. We used to have stunning walks with them.

It is believed that Bobbin was a Miss Collingwood and Chattie was Miss Charlotte Lundy. Among the other stunning young ladies would be the Misses Grout, Nelles, Muir, Moore, Pettit, Kitchen etc.

Ensign Anthony Cope lived to a great age. He became Sir Anthony and after his death in 1932, his ancestral home, Bramhill, Hampshire and all his art treasures were sold. Among the volumes left by Sir Anthony was the little leather bound diary containing an account of his tour of duty as an ensign with the First Rifle Brigade in Grimsby and Hamilton in 1862-1864.

However, all the events that took place during these years were not joyful ones. Several young soldiers died and were laid to rest in St. Andrew's churchyard. One of them was young Rifleman Lythm of

No. 6 Company who was drowned when a boat upset a little off shore. His companions reached shore but Lythm sank and never rose to the surface again.

1863. Companies of the same regiment came to Grimsby in 1863. On June 3 Dr. Lundy wrote in his journal:—

Party given by officers. Picnic in camp attended by a lot of people from Hamilton. Chinese lamps pendant from the trees. Pleasant evening around the Camp Fire, songs etc.

Songs were probably taken from the P.C.O. Songster, published in 1863. This little paper book was preserved by Doctor Fitch, who was the surgeon for all the regiments who were encamped in Grimsby from 1862-1864.

Later the 63rd Regiment was stationed here and an account of a cricket match between a detachment of the 63rd and the Grimsby Cricket Club may bring many familiar names to mind. The playing was much applauded but, owing to rain, the match was decided in one inning. The following is the score

Grimsby Club.

G. Pettit	bowled by Tenant	8
A. Woolverton	bowled by Tenant	3
B. R. Nelles	bowled by Shorer	26
J. Grout	bowled by Shorer	7
William Nelles	run out	19
H. Pettit	bowled by Shorer	0
D. Woolverton	bowled by Shorer	7
W. Williams	bowled by Shorer	12
Walter Nelles	bowled by Shorer	16
J. Pettit	b. Shorer —c. by Death	2
Rome Thomas	not out	1
Byes 9, leg-byes 2		11
	Total	112

Detachment 63rd

M. Hesber	run out	7
T. Sples	bowled by G. Pettit	10
Lieut. Atkinson	b. D. Woolverton c. Williams	14
F. Shorer	bowled D. Woolverton	7
Tenant	run out	4
Death	b. A. Woolverton c. A. Woolverton	3
Gibson	bowled G. Pettit	1
Fawlks	bowled D. Woolverton	0
Ensign Edwards	bowled Grout c. H. Pettit	4
Ward	not out	
Serg. Ball	bowled D. Woolverton c. H. Pettit	3
Byes 5, wides 7		12
	Total	65

William Fitch Jr. (Doc) a cricketer of later years said that as a boy he remembered the English Regiments. Some of the officers were

quartered in David Campbell's house on Elizabeth Street. The merchants supplied the camps with meat and other merchandise and profited by their presence in the village. Now nearly one hundred years later we are reminded of their brief stay in our midst by an enclosure in St. Andrew's churchyard where a few marble stones mark some of the graves of those who were buried there.



Lot in St. Andrew's churchyard where several men of the Rifle Brigade and the 63rd Regiment lie buried.

George Russel, Sergeant in Rifle Brigade, buried 3 June, 1862 age 26 years.

Robert Lythm. Private in Rifle Brigade, buried 29 July, 1862, age 24 years.

George Clark. Private P.C.O. Rifle Brigade, buried 14 May, 1863, age 25 years.

William Goodman. Private P.C.O. Rifle Brigade, buried 5 August, 1863, age 21 years.

Arthur Morrow. Private 7th Company 63rd Regt. Co. Downs, Ireland, buried 9 July, 1864, age 24 years.

Some of the stones have been broken and removed as has part of the iron railing. West of what on the churchyard map is marked "Soldier's Graves" is a monument to Lieut. Robert Byrnes — 1826-1866.

1863. All the social activities of Grimsby were not centered around

MASONIC BALL,
IN AID OF THE
Lancashire Relief Fund.

THE BRETHREN OF
Union Lodge, No. 7., R. G., F. & A. M.

WILL GIVE A BALL IN THE
TOWN HALL, GRIMSBY, ON WEDNESDAY EVENING,
FEBRUARY 4th, 1863.

THE BALL TO BE OPENED AT 8 O'CLOCK.

GENTLEMEN'S TICKETS, 62 each, TO BE HAD AT THE DOOR.

Brethren are requested to appear in Masonic Clothing according to rank.

Announcement of Grand Masonic Ball in Grimsby.

the Queen's Regiments. The Masonic Lodge gave a grand ball on 4th February, 1863. This was to raise funds for the Lancashire relief.

Later in the year on St. John's Day, 24 June a meeting was held in the form of a large picnic at Grimsby. An account of it termed "a very flowery description" appeared in the Hamilton Evening Times of 2 July, 1863:—

"On last Wednesday Grimsby appeared as a bride—not decked for the sacrifice — arrayed in all her charms and, whether promenading in the open glare of day or pirouetting on the velvet sward, equally prepossessing.

Leaving metaphor aside, suffice it to say, that Barton, Strict Observance, St. John's and Acacia Lodges of Hamilton accompanied by an efficient band united with the Union Lodge here in celebrating the Festival of St. John, the Baptist. Certainly no event that has taken place for some time in this locality has left a more agreeable impression on the minds of all concerned. About 300 persons were present independent of those outsiders who did not enter the magic circle in which Terpsichore reigned supreme. A few minutes prior to the train reaching Grimsby station the brethren of the Mystic Tie here, dressed in their regalia and followed by a large cortege of ladies and gentlemen, proceeded thereto and welcomed the guests of the "Ambitious City" in a style that cannot easily be effaced from the memory — one of those cordial greetings in which the fervent pressure of the hand bespeaks the warm emotions of the heart.

The spot selected for the festive arrangements was in a romantic grove on the Nelles property within an enclosure prepared expressly for the occasion, whilst the branches of the trees overhead formed an umbrageous canopy for the dancers, who seemed enraptured with the exhilarating amusement. About six o'clock a magnificent lunch was provided and two tables, capable of seating upwards of 200, were crowded to excess by those whose appetites, sharpened by pure and bracing air, did ample justice to the good things set before them. During the lunch the band poured forth a continuous stream of melody.

The Very Worshipful, Brother Rastrick of Hamilton presided. On his right was R.W.D.G.G.M. Fitch of Grimsby, also Dr. Hunt, Representative of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, and on his left T. B. Harris, Grand Secretary, and H. B. Bull, Past D.D.G.M. The Rev. Dr. Lundy, Past Grand Chaplain, pronounced the Benediction.

After the routine toasts were disposed of, the health of the R.W.D.D.G.M. (Dr. Fitch) was proposed by the Grand Secretary and responded to in felicitous terms by the former, who in the course of his remarks, gave a brief outline of Masonry in this district, coupling with it the fact that it was the Mother of the Grand Lodge of Canada and numbered at the present time more of the Masonic pioneers than any other. The learned gentleman concluded amid vociferous applause his very instructive and eloquent remarks.

Again dancing was resumed and continued till eleven o'clock when the Hamiltonians left evidently delighted with the day's amusements."

(History of Union Lodge No. 7 A.F. & A.M.
Grimsby. Compiled by E. J. Marsh.)

1864. At the beginning of the year in January one of the heaviest snow storms of the Niagara district occurred. It lasted three days and nights, all traffic was tied up and people had difficulty in reaching their homes.

1864. On January 16 there was a meeting of the Grimsby Agricultural Society. The attendance was large and the following were the officers for 1864:— Pres. Dennis Nixon, Vice-Pres. W. B. Adams, Sec. Res. J. A. Nelles, Directors — D. W. Eastman, A. Morse, J. Bridgeman, J. Oille, Thomas Muir, D. VanDuzer, A. H. Pettit, Ira Calder, B. R. Nelles.



Local Volunteers at time of Fenian Raids.

1864. On February 24th this advertisement appeared in the Hamilton Times:— "**Marlatt's Hotel, Grimsby.** This old established and well known House is kept in the best style of any on the road by Isaac Marlatt. Every accommodation for travellers. A good table always and the best of liquors."

Shortly after this notice this building was bought by William Forbes and part of it became a merchant store.

In the same paper, 25th August, there is an account of a Rifle Match held at Grimsby between No. 7 Company of the Hamilton 63rd Regiment, in charge of Captain Bell and a Grimsby Regiment in charge

of Captain Randall. The visitors won. After a dinner at Booke's Hotel, they proceeded to the Rifle Range.

1864. Voter's List for Ward No. Two in the township of Grimsby for the year 1864 has been preserved and carries the following names.

Names	Names
John W. Lewis	Charles Woolverton
John Johnson	James Bennet
Isaac Pettit	Andrew Hamilton Pettit
James Burns	Michael Rafter
Robert Thompson Randall	Lawrence Buskirk
Rev. F. J. Lundy	John Foster
Eugene Udell	James Foster
John Fisher	Joel Smith
Charles Nelles	John W. Smith
Wm. K. Sumner	Daniel Smith
Charles Kitchen	George Smith
Wm. W. Kitchen	Isaac Smith
John H. Grout	Henry Staurch
Dennis Palmer	Ezekiel Smith
Michael Hinchey	Jasper Smith
John Nixon Esq.	Jacob Biggar
James Ingleheart	James Doran
Thomas R. Hunter	Isaac Lewis
George F. Thomas	Murdoch Randall
Jonathan R. Pettit	Dennis VanDuzer
Johnson Pettit	John W. Vanduzer
James Lewis (Saltfleet)	Alexander Milmine
Levi Lewis (Saltfleet)	Harvey M. Bowslaugh
Henry R. Wilson (Saltfleet)	George Althouse
Hiram Ingleheart	John Althouse
Andrew Pettit	Wm. H. Bowslaugh
Dennis Woolverton	John Southwood
Dennis Nixon	Thomas Stewart Randall
Asa Buskirk	David P. Cline
Samuel Shaw	Ebenezer Cline
Robert H. Nixon	Henry Cline
George S. Nixon	Jacob Bowslaugh
Michael Cahill	Andrew P. Muir
James Beam	Jonathan Muir
Ralph A. Walker	Asa Pettit
Isaac Walker	John B. Pettit
John Walker	Andrew M. Pettit
Joseph Shackan	Arthur Pettit
Levi Beamer	John D. Beamer
John Beamer	Wm. Beamer

Ward 2 evidently extended west from the present day Murray Street to the limits of the township beneath the escarpment and on top south to the fifth concession (See Tremaine's map of 1862.)

1865. 16 January, Sumner & Gurney, Mill owners, were granted by Council \$15 to help rebuild the 40 Mile Creek Bridge by their mill. (The original Nelles Mill.) The bridge, the one that joins two parts of Gibson Avenue.

Fire Threatens buildings on Main Street.

In December, 1865 fire broke out in the rear of what was called The Temple building and one small building was burned. It may be assumed that the fire was extinguished by a 'Bucket-Brigade' pumping water from wells on Main and Mountain streets. Before the end of the month a meeting was held in Randall's Inn for the purpose of organizing a Hook & Ladder Fire Company. A. J. McKay was elected Captain, John H. Grout, First Lieut., W. A. Cole, Second Lieut., W. A. Gurney, Engineer, and H. E. Nelles, Secty-Treas. A committee was formed to draft by-laws and a constitution for the company and J. A. Nelles, W. B. Nelles, and J. A. Ruthven a committee to solicit subscriptions for the support of the Company. At first they did not succeed and several meetings followed without results. The last one scheduled to be held Friday, 1st June, 1866, was never held because on that date and day the Grimsby Volunteer Companies of the Lincoln Militia were called to duty to stem the invasion of the Fenian Raiders.

1866. Fenian Raiders.

An old account of the Fenians states that they were a force of ignorant men, for the most part of Irish extraction. Some of them were hard bitten veterans of the Civil War in the United States, unemployed and disgruntled at affairs in Ireland, became determined to invade Canada and overthrow the Canadian government. They held meetings along the Niagara frontier at Buffalo and other points to urge their followers to violence and lay plans for invasion.

It has been pointed out that if the U.S. government, who were aware of these meetings, had discouraged them or if the Canadian government had sent one of the regular regiments stationed at Hamilton, London and Toronto to occupy Fort Erie, these raids would in all probability have never occurred. However, both governments ignored the threat and the invasion took place.

The quick mobilization of the Canadian Militia and poor leadership on the part of the Fenians led to the failure of this disgraceful expedition.

The battle at Ridgeway near Fort Erie, where bloodshed occurred, was the only action of any consequence. Canadian Militia Units met the invaders in some strength and a short confused battle resulted, the Fenians retiring back across the Niagara river.

Two local companies in Grimsby volunteered for service. It has been said that there were 55 soldiers in each. One battalion was in charge of Captain W. B. Nelles, Lieut. Hamilton Pettit, the other in charge of Captain Andrew Randall, Lieut. Robert Byrne. Only one notice and muster roll has been preserved:—

Notice — Sergt S. A. Nelles

Grimsby, May 31st, 1866

"You will at once (in the morning) order the undermentioned men of No 5 Co. to report themselves at the Armoury at nine o'clock a.m. fully equipped with full amount of ammunition prepared to leave for St. Catharines by first train.

William Clarke
John Clarke
Geo. Hughes
B. R. Nelles
C. S. Nelles
W. H. Nelles
O. A. Nelles

By order of
Capt. W. B. Nelles
No 5 Co 20 Batn.

Det't 19 & 20 Battn. Nominal Muster Roll	Head Quarters Beamsville, No 5 Capt. Nelles	March,
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No		Remarks
1	Capt. William B. Nelles	
1	Lieut. John H. Groat	
1	Ens. A. Hamilton Pettit	
1	Sergt. Samuel A. Nelles	
2	" Edward Loosely	1 On Guard
3	" Anson Palmer	1 Sick
1	Copl. Edgar Woolverton	
2	" Richard Hopkins	1 Guard
3	" Wilberforce Gurney	
1	Private Robert B. Walker	1
2	" Henry Aury	1 Guard
3	" George Alexander	1 Cook
4	" William Barnes	1 G.R.
5	" Hugo Carpenter	1 G
6	" William Clark	1 Guard
7	" John Clarke	1 Guard
8	" George Clarke	1 Guard
9	" John Duval	1 G.
10	" John C. Duval	1 Sick Absent
11	" William Forbes	1 Guard
12	" George Hopkins	1 G.R.
13	" George Hughes	1 Guard
14	" Hamilton House	1
15	" John Lewis	Acting Orderly Room Clerk
16	" Andrew G. Muir	1
17	" George W. Muir	1 Sick
18	" George Murphy	1 Guard P
19	" Beverly Nelles	1 P
20	" Cyrus S. Nelles	1 On Guard
21	" Walter H. Nixon	1 On Guard
22	" Walter H. Nelles	1 On Guard
23	" Ontario A. Nelles	1 Bugler
24	" James O'Farrel	1 G.
25	" Henry O'Farrel	1
26	" Johnson Pettit	1

It has not been recorded if any of our Grimsby volunteers were wounded or killed in action during the raids but it is noted that Lieut. Robert Byrnes of Capt. Randall's company was buried in St. Andrew's churchyard near the Soldiers Graves in this year.

1866. Drill Shed for Grimsby.

In the minutes of the Grimsby Township Council meeting 24 November, 1866, it was moved by Mr. Doran, seconded by Mr. Oille that "whereas the County Council had granted the sum of \$250 to the municipality in consideration of supplies furnished by the Inhabitants thereof to the Volunteers during the Fenian Raid last June and whereas Dennis Nixon and others have petitioned that the said sum be granted in aid of building a Drill Shed, be it therefore resolved that the above-mentioned sum of \$250 be and is hereby granted for the purpose of aiding in building a drill shed in the village of Grimsby on condition that said petitioners raise the balance that may be required to secure the Government Grant as per circular and the following persons are hereby constituted a Committee to carry out the intent of this resolution and to report to the Council — Dennis Nixon, William Forbes and L. C. Brownjohn. Granted."

Proceedings to secure the Government grant and raise funds went forward as was evidenced in a Council meeting of 1868 when the Reeve (James Oille) was authorized to issue a cheque for \$25 being the balance due of the Grimsby Drill shed. The building was erected north of the Town Hall and High School on Depot street. Later the Minister of Militia and Defence directed that the Drill Shed at Grimsby be handed over to the Reeve for the public uses of the municipality (Letter to Dennis Nixon, 2 June, 1875).

1866. First Winery in Grimsby.

The first Winery in our district was owned and operated by W. W. Kitchen on his farm "Pleasant Grove", a little west of the present Grimsby Winery, on Main Street West. He grew grapes in large quantities, also rhubarb from which the wine was manufactured. His advertisement which appeared in the Canadian Almanac, 1866, states that his winery was in operation in 1864 in which year he took a special prize at the Provincial Exhibition in Hamilton. He also made **unfermented grape juice** which won first price at the World's Columbia Exposition in 1893.

First Canning Factory.

As has been pointed out earlier William W. Kitchen, a native son of Grimsby, was an enterprising gentleman. He built two houses on his farm (now 196-200) Main St. West and a large drive shed. In it he established a Canning Factory and two Moore brothers were the processors.

Note — The above information was given to the compiler by 'Doc'

W. W. KITCHEN'S
PURE GRAPE WINE,

WHOLESALE



AND RETAIL.

Took a **SPECIAL PRIZE** at the **PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION** in
HAMILTON, 1864.

TOOK THE HIGHEST PRIZES
 AND AWARDED THREE DIPLOMAS,

At the last **PROVINCIAL EXHIBITION** in **LONDON,**

And tested by the Committee of Management of the **MONTREAL GENERAL HOSPITAL,** who
 report it to be a pure article, good for Medicinal purposes.

Now in use by some Hundreds of Churches,
 FOR SACRAMENTAL SERVICES.

It is sold by most of the principal Chemists in Canada East and West.

PRICE, \$2 50 per Gallon. 10 gallons and over, 25 per cent. Discount.

Kegs and Barrels furnished at \$1 25 each. Money may be sent with the order at my
 risk, if duly registered, or paid to Express Company on receipt of the Wine.

Direct all orders to

W. W. KITCHEN,

GRIMSBY, O. W.

R.B.—GRAPE VINES AT LOW RATES BY THE 1000.

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Fitch, one of old historians who as a lad remembered Mr. Kitchen, his farm, winery and factory. For those who may be searching for information regarding canning factories Mr. Beverly Nelles built his early canning factory on his land between what is now North Robinson street and Maple Avenue.

1867. Price of farm products.

It has been recorded that Canadian farmers profited by the Civil War in the United States. If so, they must have dropped in value as soon as that War ended as products as published in 1867 would indicate:—

Flour	per hundred lbs	\$2.00	Apples	per bushel	.37
Fall Wheat	per bushel	.87	Butter	per lb	.16
Spring Wheat	per bushel	.75	Cheese	per lb	.10
Corn	per bushel	.25	Eggs	per doz.	.16
Oats	per bushel	.38	Hay	per ton	\$12.00
Potatoes	per bushel	.38	Firewood	per cord	2.50

Public Building Doors shall open outward.

In the minutes of the Grimsby Township Council meeting, July 1867, it was moved by Mr. Oille, seconded by Mr. Doran that the Reeve be authorized to call the attention of Trustees of churches, church wardens and all persons in charge of Public Buildings of the requirement of the Statute providing that the Entrance Door thereof shall open outward.

1868. Stone Quarries.

It is not definitely known in what year Robert Gibson came from Scotland to Grimsby and established the Stone Quarries under the Point. However, it is mentioned in the 'Prospectus for a Harbor' in these words:—

"The inexhaustible quarries of the mountain, one mile distant from the proposed Harbor, with a gentle down grade, the better to facilitate the transit of stone by horse cars or otherwise to the wharves, are most important. The quarries consist of the very best material of all kinds for building purposes such as Lime, Fire, Free Stone and Red variegated Free Stone, much admired by builders and Architects, all of which cannot fail to attract the attention of those living in Lake Towns and Cities. Toronto alone requires immense quantities of Lime and Stone, and with a Harbor at Grimsby, the entire trade would be directed thereto. Present prices for Lime, 50 cts. per bushel, Common or Rubble stone, \$10 per cord, the better samples proportionately higher."

The stone from the Quarries was brought down the hillside on flat-bottomed cars and car tracks were laid down Mountain Street, across Main, down Elizabeth street to Victoria Park where they swung off and followed the contour of the creek, along a causeway to the east side of The Forty Pond. There a large wooden dock jutted out into the lake and from it the stone was loaded on the old stone-carrying ship "The Gordon Jerry" and transported to Toronto.

The cars or trucks made the trip from hill to lake under their own momentum and were brought back to the base of the hill by horse and taken to the top by cable. Each train of coupled-cars was manned by a brake-man. Another article states that Robert Gibson shipped his stone via the old Grand Trunk Railroad (C.N.R.). He employed a large force of men one of them being Sylvester Oakley, who was employed in sharpening all cutting tools — chisels, picks, crowbars, etc. for getting out stone. He also at times rode on the cars and once received severe injuries when one of them jumped the tracks and overturned.

Later there was another quarry on the hill on the east side of the creek (where the reservoir now stands) owned and operated by a Mr. Webster. He also used the stone-cars and shipped stone from the Grimsby piers.

1869. Toll Houses Sold.

On 19 May a meeting of the Grimsby Township Council was held for the purpose of electing a committee to sell the Toll Houses, east and west of the village of Grimsby. In July the sum of \$20 was received from the sale of the Toll House west of the village, the money to be spent on the Grimsby-Queenston macadamized road.

1869. Prospectus For Forming a Harbor at Grimsby.

This prospectus was prepared in 1869 in an endeavor to induce a company or corporation to make The Forty Pond into a harbor. It has not been ascertained if it succeeded or not but excerpts from this document give items of interest that are worth recording:—

“The Agricultural and Commercial interests of this place and vicinity for many years past has suffered severely from the want of a Harbor at the mouth of the Forty Mile Creek, notwithstanding the natural facilities rarely surpassed for such an enterprise both as regards facility of construction and ultimate remuneration to Stockholders.

The natural basin at this point is well adapted for dredging cheap, with high banks rising from the water's edge, being of sufficient height to spout grain into vessels without the aid of machinery, thereby saving in outlay and working the cost thereof.”

“This site with sufficient lands attached will be given FREE to any Company or Corporation who will guarantee that a suitable Harbor be built.”

“The cost of constructing this work has been variously estimated. Kivas Tully of Toronto, an eminent Engineer, was asked a few years ago his opinion as to the cost. He thought \$10,000 or \$12,000 would be sufficient but it is the general opinion of Capitalists in the immediate neighborhood that a Capital Stock of \$30,000 would suffice.”

“This Harbor should be a Township matter. All ratepayers are more or less interested and should payments be spread over a term of ten years they would not be burdensome, quite the contrary! The rateable property of the Township of Grimsby for the year 1868 amounted to \$784,154. This proposal of Capital Stock of \$30,000 paid in ten

equal annual instalments with six per cent interest would amount to \$39,900, or \$54 on every \$1000 of rateable property, divided into ten equal payments, each amounting to only \$5.43."

The Garden of Canada.

"It is needless to say that Grimsby possesses the finest climate in Canada with a suitable soil for the cultivation of the various kinds of fruit grown in a temperate climate, the demand for which is constantly increasing with a growing population in the higher latitudes of this Dominion. We also have a vast expanse of country with a climate too severe for the production of many varieties cultivated at Grimsby, the demand for which must command high prices and a lake transit which would be advantageous both as regards price and cost of conveyance."

"This post is admirably located being in the heart of one of the best districts in the Province of Ontario and probably better known as 'The Garden of Canada'."

It is interesting to note here that as early as 1869 Grimsby was known as the Garden of Canada and the heart of the fruitgrowing industry.

The above document was preserved by Dr. Solon Woolverton but, as many such, it leaves a lot of questions unanswered. Who were the 'Capitalists' in the neighborhood and why did they not form into a company and build a Harbor at Grimsby?

In compiling a history of places and people historians are told to give information that brings to light the character of the people who in their generation have lived in a community and helped to make its history worth recording. Usually this has to do with achievements in business, politics and religion, their courage in times of trouble, their patriotism in years of war. Little has been told of their humour, wit and good fellowship. The following account published, not in a newspaper, but printed on a single sheet of paper may give the reader an insight into the whimsies and amity of our citizens in the gay seventies:—

1870. The Benedicts' Ball, Grimsby.

Grimsby Feb. 1st, 1870.

To the Editor of the "Constitutional"

Dear Sir — Would you be kind enough to insert the following in your next weekly issue and oblige "A friend".

In last week's issue of your paper, under the caption of "Grimsby Correspondence" was an account of the Benedicts' Ball recently held in this place. Now, Mr. Editor, I think the account there given is decidedly one sided. The fair sex came in for any amount of laudation while we poor representatives of the sterner sex were hardly considered worthy of notice. Fair play is bonny play; consequently as one of the aggrieved, I let loose this protest to vindicate our sex, who shone only less brilliantly than the fair maids so highly eulogized. He that hath ears, listen:—

Mr. B.N., first but not least was dressed in his best garments, manufactured and repaired by our fashionable tailor, Mr. L. He looked

unspeakable and acted as he looked. He is chiefly noted for the brilliant style of his galloping. He was unusually fascinating.

Mr. J.K.O. (Beamsville) was dressed as usual in the height and depth of fashion (Parisian) and was very taking with that Lord Dundreary-ish style of his, which he has perfected by the study of the drama. He was a decided success.

Mr. R.A.N. was dressed also which added little to his naturally bewitching appearance. He was chiefly noticed for the polished style of his hair and boots. A lady pronounced him a perfect little beauty. It is not true that he uses Coreys ointment for his hair or boots.

Mr. J.H. was one, if not the leading spirit of the evening. He was dressed not in that dress suit which he said he had ordered from Hamilton which, strange to say, has not yet arrived. He was chiefly successful at supper. As an eatist he excels.

Mr. E.J.P. might have been noticed coming in at a late hour behind a tremendous bleached mustache. He is remarkable for his size and for being a good little boy. He is fair to see — yet, alas, he is a bachelor.

Mr. W.H.N. was as fascinating as usual, more so, if possible. He was dressed chiefly in a shirt collar; and is remarkable for his resemblance to the definition of a straight line, length without breadth let no one say without depth). He dances etherially.

Mr. A.W. was more or less irresistible and wore his broadcloth in a manner that won the hearts even of the musicians. He is a delicate youth and had to sacrifice his whiskers for his health's sake. His capacity for turkey has never been surpassed.

Mr. S.S. was also dressed gorgeously for which he looked the better. He was one of the stars (Fixed) of the evening. He was noticed sitting for the most part beneath the drapery of the Union Jack which harmonized so well with that military air for which he is so distinguished.

Mr. M.J.A., from his commanding position at one end of the Hall, viewed the assembly with a critic's eye and eye-glass. He danced but little — some whispered corns. He is celebrated for his choice collection of oil paintings.

Mr. O.A.N. looked brilliant as he always does when he is dressed; and is noted for style and speed. Ladies find him irresistible. He should be marked dangerous. His dress clothes were lost in the late accident.

Mr. H.E.N., a letter-ary character attached to a magnificent pair of whiskers. He partook of the mazy dance numerously. He is noted for his stamps and promiscuousness of business. Send for his card.

Mr. W.B. (Toronto) was got up regardless of expense. He appeared to be mostly shirt collar and shirt front. He had an attack of colic or Grecian bend in his neck. He was greatly admired.

Mr. J.H.G. made his debut in a dress suit. He has derived an iron-ical cast of features from his business. He is remarkable for the broad part in his hair, which is cut in the latest fashion; also for his tendency to shed his buttons a la Pegotty.

If space permitted we might mention many more brilliant lights— as **Mr. C.K.** who was the wonder of all, as to how he got his pants on— or **Mr. J.W.G.N.**, whose coat has lately undergone a sudden metamor-

phosis from frock to dress — or Mr. S.F.W. who has a pensive air, from daily struggles in his efforts to grow a mustache — or J.M., our village Cicero, whose name will be handed down in the records of the Township for his success in not carrying the Duncan Bill, was dressed principally in his clothes which at first glance one would take to be chiefly necktie. He wore no perfume. Those whose names have been omitted must not take it too much to heart, as they are too numerous to mention.

Jenkins.

Note — Our correspondent's facetious sketch of men and things at the Benedicts' Ball is very readable; but like many others of its kind, it borders more on the personal than is desirable for our columns. It also lacks one portrait, without which it must be regarded as incomplete — we mean that of the illustrious Jenkins himself.

Ed. Con.

We cannot be sure who the person signing himself 'Jenkins' was but, knowing something about the people who attended the ball, we can hazard a guess that he was a close friend or relative of those he was so gaily lampooning. As a clue to the identity of the initialed gentlemen we suggest the following names:—

Mr. B.N. (Beverly Robinson Nelles); Mr. J.K.O. (J. K. Osborne); Mr. R.A.N. (Robert A. Nelles); Mr. E.J.P. (E. J. Palmer); Mr. W.H.N. (Walter Nelles); Mr. A.W. (Algernon Woolverton?); Mr. S.S. (Major S. Spillett); Mr. M.J.A. (Major Anderson); Mr. O.A.N. (Ontario Nelles); Mr. H.E.N. (Henry Edward Nelles, Postmaster); Mr. J.H.G. (John Grout, owner Grimsby Agricultural Works); Mr. J.W.G.N. (James Willison Grout Nelles); Mr. S.F.W. (Solon Woolverton).

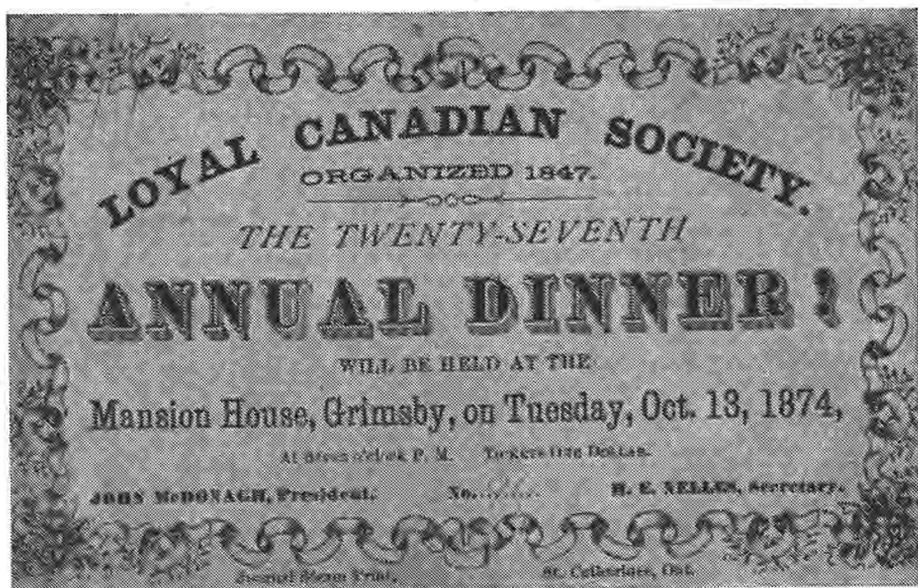
1871. In April, 1871, a Mechanic's Institute Library was incorporated in Grimsby. It was a subscription library, first located in the George Mabey stone house which stood at the top of Palmer's Hill on the south side. It was destroyed by fire in 1894 but the books were saved. Then the library was moved to the apartment over the Fire Hall and remained there until the new Carnegie Library was erected in 1912.

Early in the 1870's the entrance to the Woolverton Mountain road was altered and the road straightened. On Tremaine's map (1862) it is shown as proceeding south from the Main Road (No. 8 Highway) opposite a line dividing the Woolverton and Pettit lands (Lots 15 and 16) then rising in a south-westerly direction to the top of the escarpment at a point opposite the dividing line of the Woolverton and Smith lands (Lots 16 and 17). On the Historical Atlas map of Grimsby township, 1876, it marks the road as it is today, the entrance a short distance east of the old one.

In the Grimsby township council meeting in 1873 a rod of land on the east side of the road allowance between lots 15 and 16, Conc. II was granted to Dennis Woolverton in lieu of a portion of the now travelled road.

Fair View.

At the top of the escarpment a little west of the Woolverton road on John Walker's farm there is a plot of ground surrounded by trees.



Dinner card — Loyal Canadian Society.

Silver pin used by members. Presented to G.H. Society by Miss Dorothy Nelles, New York.



It was properly named "Fair View" as from here one overlooks a splendid panorama of rich fruit lands below — orchards and vineyards stretching to the blue waters of Lake Ontario as far west as Burlington Bay. It has been a familiar spot as a picnic ground and meeting place for young people who have lived in this part of Grimsby township.

1874. Annual Dinner of the Loyal Canadian Society.

Every year since its organization in 1847 this Society held its Annual Dinner on the 13 October, the anniversary of General Brock's death in defence of Canada. The notice of the meeting announces the name of the President and Secretary and the place of meeting. In connection with membership in this patriotic group is a picture of the silver maple leaf pin worn by members. The one pictured belonged to H. E. Nelles, secretary in 1874 and was presented to the Grimsby Historical Society by his granddaughter, Miss Dorothy Nelles of New York.

1875. As one of the oldest settlements in Ontario Grimsby had grown slowly. In 1875 it is described as having a delightful romantic appearance and containing 600 inhabitants. It had five churches, four resident ministers, three doctors, two surveyors, one conveyancer, one high school, one public school, a Mechanic's Institute containing nearly 1000 volumes, one Grange, one Lodge of Good Templars, a public hall, two taverns, one brewery, one fruit canning factory, two saw mills, two grist mills, one foundry and machine works, one drug store, three blacksmith shops, two carriage makers, one harness maker, a station of the G.W. Railway, a Drill Shed, two butcher shops, three merchant shops, two boot and shoe shops, one tin shop, and two groceries.

One of the latter shops was in the Malakoff Building and belonged to William Fitch Jr. He called it 'Dominion Hall' and he advertised his wares in verse:—

TEA.

The products of nature tho' varied indeed,
Are each for some purpose designed,
To clothe and to comfort, to cure and to feed,
And benefit beast and mankind.

There is not a herb or a leaflet that grows
Whatever that virtue may be,
So soothing a charm to our feelings bestows
Nor half so reviving as Tea.

Great Reduction in Prices of Tea:
\$1.00 Hyson for 75c. and 75c. for 50 c.
Japan from 30 c. to 75c.

William Fitch Jr., known as "Doc" by his friends, was the son of Dr. William Fitch. He too had attended medical school and received a degree but he never practiced and the reason was never explained. Besides selling groceries he had a drug store (perhaps in the same building) and he was station master for a brief period. All through his life

he was a well known and ardent cricketer. He always played with the Grimsby Cricket Club and was coach of the Lake Lodge School cricket team, where he taught the boys how to play the game not only in sport but in life. He was patient, whimsical, and had a great understanding of boys. "Doc" was also a historian, remembering many details of earlier years. In his later life he lived alone in his house on Main Street West, on the south side where Main joins Gibson Avenue. This has been known for many years as "Fitch's Corner."

1875. The citizens of Grimsby became convinced that it was about time the hamlet should be given the more dignified name of village. With this in mind they called a meeting on September 6, 1875 and chose a committee to draft a petition "praying for the erection of the then hamlet into a village," the committee being E. J. Palmer, Robert Dolmage, J. H. Grout, Robert Gibson, E. E. Loosely, W. H. Nelles, Thomas Brownjohn and William Forbes.

1876. Grimsby Incorporated into a village.

The original copy of the Parliamentary Bill that was passed through the Ontario Legislature creating Grimsby into a village has been preserved by the Gibson family. The Bill was Act 67 — 1st. Session of the 3rd Parliament of the 39th year of the reign of Queen Victoria. It was a private bill introduced by Mr. Currie, the sitting member for Lincoln County. First reading was given the bill 27 December, 1875, second reading 21 January, 1876 and the third reading 27 December of the same year and immediately became law. Sir Oliver Mowat was Premier of Ontario and the Preamble of the bill reads:—

Whereas the Inhabitants of the village of Grimsby in the County of Lincoln have by their petition represented that there is a population of seven hundred and fifty souls resident within the said village and in order to promote its progress and prosperity and in compliance with the resolution passed at a public meeting duly convened to consider the matter of incorporation and numerously attended, it is desirable that the said village of Grimsby should be incorporated under the name "The Corporation of the village of Grimsby in the County of Lincoln", and it is expedient to grant the prayer of the said petition.

As Clerk of Grimsby township Walter Nelles was empowered to call a meeting of ratepayers to nominate candidates for office in the new village council. **John H. Grout** was chosen as Reeve and associated with him as Councillors were **Beverly Nelles, William Forbes, E. J. Palmer** and **E. E. Loosely**, with **James Randall** as Clerk. These gentlemen continued to be prominent in the affairs of the village for many years.

Only the older citizens of Grimsby today may remember them. They may remember the horse-and-buggy days, the hitching posts and plank sidewalks on Main street, the old Town Hall and High School on Depot street, the Elm Street Public school, the skating rink on Oak

street, the cutters and bob-sleds in winter, the sound of sleigh bells on the frosty air. They may recall the days when farms and orchards lay close to the centre of the village — the Nelles land edging Murray street, the Anderson acres on the rise of the hill to the east. They may remember the picket fences enclosing spacious lawns and gardens, the lovely shade trees unmarred by ugly telephone posts and wires, the quiet streets at dusk, the warm summer air broken only by the sound of children's voices, and the occasional call of whip-poor-wills from the hill.

They may look back across the years to the time when they were young and Grimsby was a village.