

THE TOWN OF WALKERTON.

Small Library

THE county seat of Bruce, and is situated within the Township of Brant, and on either side, but chiefly on the left bank, of the Sangeen, which at this point runs winding through a pleasant and picturesque valley, formed by a "bottom" of varying width, from the outer edges of which the surface rises, by gentle ascent toward the south-west, till at the average distance of nearly a mile it attains the general level of the surrounding country; while the north-eastern boundary of the valley is formed by an abrupt "break" and almost precipitous ascent, the general lines of which are broken by here and there a gulch. originally a water-course, at irregular intervals, these forming by their presence easy modes of communication with the outside country, and, in their intervals, some of the finest building sites imaginable, the commanding positions of which have been utilized and beautified by the erection of elegant private residences.

The history of the early settlement and subsequent growth of the place is identical with that of a score or more of others—some of which almost rival it in size and extent—in that part of the western peninsula chiefly covered by Bruce County. The first actual settler within its present limits, and the real founder of the place as well, was Joseph Walker, who settled on the lot where Vogan's large mills stand, on the 12th May, 1850. He at once built a mill here on the site of the present grist and flouring mill; and being the first not only in the township, but in a large extent of country surrounding it on every side, this enterprise formed the nucleus of a village whose development was immediate, continuous and rapid. John B. Lundy was the second settler in the place, very soon after Mr. Walker, and kept a