

THE TOWN OF THOROLD.

The town of Thorold is an incorporated town, situated in the township of the same name, settled in 1769, at which time, and for years afterwards, the place was known as "Stump Town." This appellation was given, no doubt, from the fact, that the few settlers had to hew out of the dense forest a place to locate. The many stumps surrounding this, their new home, suggested the title.

However, as the place became populated, and the hamlet assumed the proportions of a village, this early name was dropped, and the present one substituted, coming from hearts, which wished to perpetuate in their new home some of the names of the mother land.

The settlement became incorporated as a village in 1850, and as a town in 1875.

The old Welland Canal intersects the town and divides it into about equal proportions, known as the East and West Sides. The new Welland Canal separates the eastern portion into two other divisions. Both these water highways provide unsurpassed water power for milling and manufacturing, which has been taken advantage of by enterprising men, who have built mills and factories, and conducted them successfully for years. The town possesses four large flour mills, three of which are classed among the best in Canada. These are run on the Patent Roller process, and have an aggregate capacity of 800 barrels per day, and the product is exported principally to Europe and Newfoundland. The splendid woolen mills of the Thorold Woolen and Cotton Manufacturing Co. gives employment to a large number of hands in the manufacture of hosiery and woolen goods of all kinds. The Thorold Felt Goods Co., an incorporation for the manufacture of strong woolen felt for boots, horse blankets, paddings and linings of all kinds, where warmth and durability are required, also serves as a factor in the prosperity of the town. The Ontario Silver Co., which has a fine commodious establishment, keeps at work a goodly number of artisans in the manufacture of silverware, nickel-plating, etc. In addition to these, there are foundries, machine shops, saw-mills, cabinet shops, and cement mills, all of which are doing a fair trade and contributing to the growth of the town. Thorold also possesses very fine and almost inexhaustible quarries, from which are obtained stone for building purposes, water-lime and cement. The latter commodity is manufactured by Battle & Sons, who have a very wide and good reputation for their cement. The town contains Episcopal, Presbyterian,