


usual lines of general business are well represented. There are fine Methodist, Catholic, Presbyterian, Episcopal and Baptist Churches; and 2 public schools—one a fine substantial building.

There is an excellent town hall with accommodation for 400 persons, a convenient market stance, a fire hall and steam fire engine, street electric lights and a very fine iron bridge connecting North and South Dresden, erected by the town and county. There is a private bank, a daily post office, telegraph, telephone, and express offices, and a live weekly newspaper—the "Dresden Times." Here is located Division Court No. 3; headquarters of the Camden and Dresden Agricultural association, as also of the Dresden or No. 6 Company of Kent volunteers. Mail stages leave daily for Dawn Mills and for Croton and Grove Mills, semi-weekly. There are lodges of Workmen, Masons, Oddfellows, Orangemen, &c. Assessed value of real and personal property, \$450,000. Funded Debt, \$40,000.

### BOTHWELL.



The town of Bothwell is located on the London road in the township of Zone, a mile north of the River Thames, and 22 miles east of Chatham, the county town. An important station on the Grand Trunk and Canadian Pacific Railways; it is also headquarters for the Florence and Clachan stages. It was laid out in 1854 by the late Hon. George Brown, to whose enterprise and the construction of the Great Western Railway it owes its existence; and was incorporated as a town, by special Act of Parliament, in 1867. The present population is about 1000.

The early history is not eventful, but is remarkable in connection with its once famous oil-wells. Its site, until 1850, formed part of a dense bush—the once Indian reserve of the Moravians—and then, perhaps, the population of the whole township did not exceed a dozen settlers, chiefly located along the river road. The survey (made by Dennis Boulton, P. L. S.) dates from 1854, when a great sale of lots, widely advertised, had place the 21st November following, realizing thereat \$13,000. Mr. Brown, who owned some 5,000 acres of surrounding land, set to work for its systematic clearing, erecting saw mills and furniture factories and until the collapse of 1857-8 was a busy hive of enterprise. Then until the discovery of oil in 1865-6 the town was all but deserted. That event, however, set things booming; its fortunes rose rapidly—again reached the height of its old position—went a stride far beyond it. Corner lots until then unsaleable at \$50 to \$100, now realized \$1000—the S. E. corner lot of Main and Oak streets, \$3000. Buildings ran up by the hundreds, hotels could not accommodate half the people. As a paper puts it: "Feb'y 1866 a year ago 400 or 500 people, to-day 5000 or 6000; eight passenger trains stop here and 100 people often arrive by one train; Griffiths Hotel leased for \$2000—the Martin House for \$3500." But its greatness has again departed!

The first settlers were Henry D. Munro (a nephew of the famous Sir James Duke) who with his partner—one McLaughlin—opened the first store in a building which stood south of the railway track, near the old refinery, which served also as a temporary boarding house for incomers; Mr. Griffiths, who erected the first tavern two doors east of the old school house; George Pennicuik who erected the dwelling next door east, and Capt. Taylor who arrived the following winter. The first merchant north of the railway, was John E. Brooke of Chatham, who did business about the site of Mayor Dillon's new store and was succeeded by the late Duncan Campbell and Donald McNabb, both also of Chatham; Wm. Laughton followed immediately after and is yet in business and now the oldest merchant.

Bothwell, present, is a prosperous town, the centre of a fine grazing section of country. The town is well built and contains several fine blocks of stores, hotels and handsome dwellings; a fine two-story brick town hall, a public hall and a large and very fine brick school. There are Presbyterian, Episcopal, Baptist and R. Catholic churches. It contains of industrial establishments:—flouring, planing and saw mills; carriage shops, pump factory, foundry, soap works, basket factory, &c. Here are located the headquarters of the Zone Agricultural Society; No. 6, Division court; and the Bothwell or No. 5 volunteer company. There is also an efficient fire brigade. A daily mail and express service; telegraph, banking and telephone office established facts; and there is a daily stage to Florence and Aughrim, &c. and weekly newspaper—The Bothwell Times. The shipments, are grain, live stock, lumber, raw oil, wool and other farm products. The assessed value of property is about \$20,000 and the bonded indebtedness, \$5,000.

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