

distant. In 1865 a branch track was laid to Barrie, and in 1871 a further extension was completed to Orillia, and thence to the Muskoka territory.

The town has, within the last few years, made unusual progress; the surrounding country is of an excellent quality, and the mercantile, mechanical, agricultural and general prosperity of Barrie will compare favorably with that of any other town of the Province.

Barrie is comparatively a new town. In the year 1831 a settler named David Edgar took up his quarters in an old Government storehouse. In the following year John Bingham built the first log house, having been induced to settle here by William Mann, then living in a log house at Kempenfeldt. Among the early settlers were Capt. A. E. Walker, John McWatt, Andrew and Alexander Graham, James Palmer, J. Sanford, Thrift Meldrum, W. B. McVittie, Edmund Lally, W. Boys, Solomon Baillie, Thomas Smith, Richard Corney, and T. D. McConkey. Robert Ross laid out the village, which was named in honor of Commodore Barrie. In 1837 the town comprised twenty-eight families. In 1843 the County of Simcoe, until then part of the Home District, was formed, with Barrie as its county town.

It was the original intention of Governor Simcoe to fix upon a point two miles east of the present town as a site for settlement, and the village of Kempenfeldt was surveyed, but the superior advantages of the present location changed the intention. Distant from Toronto 64 miles; Collingwood 31; Orillia 27 and Penetanguishene 32. Population 6000.

CHURCHES.—Church of England, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Canada Methodist.

---

POST OFFICE, (Owen Street.)

James Edwards, postmaster; C. M. Edwards, assistant postmaster; J. B. McPhee, clerk; George Vickers, letter carrier.

POST OFFICE INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT :—Daniel Spry, inspector, James Henderson, assistant inspector; John Forsyth, chief clerk; Geo. J. Mason, Strachan Jones, James Ward, John Powell, clerks; John Harris, messenger.

CUSTOMS :—J. G. Grant.

INLAND REVENUE :—R. A. Hartley.