

CONCLUSION.

In the foregoing pages we have considered these townships as when covered by primitive forests and the deep silence of nature was unbroken save by the hunter's gun or his victim's death-cry: have noted the earliest efforts made to plant the standard of civilization in these wilds, and marked the gradual disappearance of the forest beneath the vigorous arm of the settler: have recounted the labors, perils, and privations through which our forefathers struggled to gain subsistence and build up homes for themselves and families here; and have reviewed the well earned success that has finally crowned their efforts.

It has already been seen that most of our early settlers were men of limited means. In far off sections we hear of villages and towns springing into sudden wealth and prosperity from the influx of foreign capital; but here, unless in very exceptional cases, the people have been forced to depend on their own exertions. Before an enterprize requiring capital could be entered upon, the capital itself was to be created; and before this could be effected, it was often necessary to overcome many counteracting influences of which our people know full well.