

Clarke, of Dalhousie, who gives much interesting matter relating to the early history of our country, says, when speaking of these military schools: "The first rudiments of my humble education I acquired at a garrison school, at old Fort Niagara. When we came to the British side of the river I went to various schools." He also speaks of similar schools at Kingston, where the results seem to have been quite successful. One Donevan taught in this capacity for some time; and at Niagara Cockerell was a favorite with those who patronized the garrison schools. We have the names of Meyers, Blaney, and Michael also as garrison teachers, but can not locate the scenes of their operations. It is probable, however, that they were lesser lights, contemporary with Messrs. Donevan and Cockerell, for subsequent to 1800 we do not hear of any such schools being in favor. A better class of instructors began to arrive among the settlers, and more encouragement was given to their labors. Rochefoucault, speaking of Kingston and vicinity in 1795, remarks: "In this district are some schools, but they are few in number. The children are instructed in reading and writing, and pay each a dollar a month. One of the masters, superior to the rest in point of knowledge, taught Latin, but he has left the school without being succeeded by another instructor of the same learning."

Playter, in his "History of Methodism," tells us that "in 1789, a pious young man, called Lyons, an exhorter in the Methodist Episcopal Church, came to Canada and engaged in teaching school in the township of Adolphustown, on the shores of Hay Bay." He was probably one of the first, if not the first, regular teacher that penetrated so far westward. But a Mr. Clarke is spoken of as teaching in Fredericksburgh and Ernesttown during 1786, and two subsequent years. He was well qualified and his services very popular with the people; but superior inducements caused him to leave the Bay of Quinté and go to Dundas, where a farm was purchased for him by Captain Frazier, and other preparations made to ensure his success and contentment.

Ex-Sheriff Ruttan, a native of Adolphustown, which for years occupied a prominent

position in the embryo colony, relates many pleasing reminiscences of his school days. When seven years of age, he was one of those who patronized Mrs. Cranaham, "who opened a sylvan seminary for the young idea in the above township, and from which he graduated to the school of Jonathan Clarke." After describing the accommodations furnished at these seats of learning, he continues: "You may suppose these gradations to Parnassus were carried into effect because a large amount of knowledge could be obtained. Not so: for Dilworth's Spelling Book and the New Testament were the only books possessed by these academies. About five miles distant was another teacher, whose name I forget. After his day's work was done in the bush, but particularly in the winter, he was ready to receive pupils. This evening school was especially for those in search of knowledge." He also admits that some attended for other purposes than the acquirement of rudimentary education, for "exciting occasions sometimes happened by moonlight, when the girls joined the cavalcade;" and besides the contents of the above-mentioned books they made it an object to "study the girls' looks." Mr. Ruttan concludes:—"These primeval days I remember with great pleasure. At fourteen my education was finished." We have only to add that his subsequent life demonstrated the value of this backwoods education, as he made it serve him to good advantage and by its use he rose to an honorable position in his native country. The same testimony may be borne to the record of others who were school-mates of Mr. Ruttan, and most of them natives of Adolphustown. This township is one of the smallest in the province—if consolidated it would not be more than three miles and a half square—but it can boast of a worthy representation in all the leading professions of our people. No less than fifteen members of the Local and Dominion Parliament are claimed as having spent their juvenile years and received their first training in the common schools of Adolphustown. Among this number we may mention the following as having more or less distinguished themselves:—Christopher and Daniel Hagerman, Henry Ruttan, Da-