

THE REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY.

The first Canadian Parliament was from the 15th October, 1792, to the 5th June, 1796, and the second from the 3rd July, 1797, to the 4th July, 1800. Who the representatives for the county during these two parliaments were we are unable to ascertain, as the records relating to these matters were consumed by the Montreal fire of 1849, and for the following list, which we have every reason to believe is correct and complete, we are indebted to the researches of Thomas S. Shenston, up to 1851.

The third Parliament was from the 9th July, 1801, to the 9th March, 1804, and the election of a representative to serve in this parliament for the counties of Oxford, Norfolk and Middlesex was held in the year 1800, at Averill's Mills, (now Waterford) in the township of Townsend, James Walsh was returning officer. The Hon. David William Smith and Richard Cockerell were the candidates, the former of whom was elected and appointed speaker of the House. It was during this parliament that the first Representative Act was passed. The provisions of this Act did not change the representation with regard to Oxford, Norfolk and Middlesex.

The fourth Parliament was from the 6th March, 1805, to March 16, 1808. The election of a member for the three counties was held at Turkey Point. The candidates were P. Mallory and Samuel Ryerse. Mr. Mallory was elected.

During the Parliament of 1808 a further alteration was made in the Representative Act, by which Norfolk was entitled to a representative itself, Oxford and Middlesex being still united. The fifth Parliament was from the 9th March, 1809, to the 6th March, 1812.

The sixth Parliament was from the 5th August, 1812, to the 1st April, 1816. The seventh Parliament was from the 8th February, 1817, to the 9th March, 1820. The member for the counties of Oxford and Middlesex for this parliament was Malon Burwell.

On the 7th of March, 1820, during the fifth session of this parliament, an Act was passed providing that every county containing a population of one thousand should be entitled to a representative in the legislature, and such counties as contained four thousand two representatives. The population of the county of Oxford as then constituted amounted to two thousand four hundred and fifty-five, which, under the above Act, entitled it to one member.

The eighth parliament was from the 14th of April, 1821 to the 19th January, 1824. The election was held July 8th, 1820, when the late Thomas Horner was elected the first representative of the county of Oxford. The election was held at the old "Canfield place," East Oxford—Colonel Bowen, Returning Officer; Colonel G. W. Whitehead, Poll Clerk.

"Thomas Horner, the first white settler in the county, was born March 17, 1767, at Bordentown, New Jersey, then a colony of Great Britain; was