

of Belleville to Parliament, the result of which was "an Act to establish a Board of Police in the town of Belleville, passed 6th March, 1834."

It would seem that the Act passed did not come into operation, for in 1836, an Act was passed repealing the former one. This latter Act was in many respects the same, but making further provisions. The same year the town record begins. The boundaries were, "commencing at the limits between lots numbers five and six, in the first concession, so as a line at right angles will run on the northerly side of Wonnacott's bridge, thence south seventy-four degrees west to the limits between lots numbers two and three, thence sixteen degrees east to the bay of Quinté, thence easterly, following the winding of the bay to the limits between lots numbers five and six aforesaid, thence north sixteen degrees west to the place of beginning, together with the island and the harbour." There were two wards, each of which elected two members of the Board of Police, and these four selected a fifth. The body then selected one of themselves for President. Those elected the first year were, Wm. McCarty and Asa Yeomans for first ward; Zenas Dafoe and Wm. Connor for second ward; Billa Flint was elected the fifth member; and was also chosen President; Geo. Benjamin to be clerk to the Board.

Up to this time there had been no side-walks, and at the same time there was no drainage. The consequence was that in the rainy seasons, the streets were almost impassable—quite as bad as those of Muddy York are said to have been. The first pavement was laid in 1836, the stones for which were taken from the river. Some portion of this stone pavement yet remains.

It is impossible to say definitely what was the number of inhabitants at any one period. There were, however, in 1818, according to Talbot, about 150, about 500 in 1824, 700 in 1829, and in 1836 not far from 1000.

After this the town increased more rapidly in size and importance. Steps were taken to have built a Court House and Jail, as the nearest place of safe confinement of prisoners was at Kingston; and in 1838, just at the close of the rebellion, the present building was finished. The following year a "Court of Request," in accordance with an Act passed in 1792, was established in Belleville.