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History of the Galt Grammar School and Collegiate Institute.

THE Town of Galt has long been known for the unusual beauty of its situation, the excellence of its manufactures, and the prominence of its educational institutions. In the last respect, it occupies a position unrivalled in the country, in that the foundation of its education was laid under circumstances of such a peculiar character, as to give it a distinction held, we believe, by no other town in Canada.

In the early history of this country, when our forefathers were hewing out for themselves homes in the wilderness, the education of the youth was not wholly neglected, and when the opportunity came to establish schools, not only of common, but of higher education, it was readily seized upon by those who had the intellectual development of the community at heart.

Many who attended the Semi-Centennial celebration and Tassie Old Boys' Re-Union were shown, as indeed are all visitors to Galt, interested in educational lore, a rough cast, two-storey building situated on Market street some distance north of the present town hall. That it is of historic interest centres in the fact that it was in the original of that building—Galt's first municipal building—that secondary education had its birth in 1852.

In the upper storey of that unpretentious, old building, which the villagers spoke of as Noah's Ark, a small

band of students gathered together to receive instruction in languages, living and dead, and in such subjects as were not taught in the common school. For purposes of instruction, the Board of Trustees composed of such well known educational pioneers



J. E. Bryant, M. A.

as Dean Boomer, Rev. James Strang, Rev. Hamilton Gibson, Robert Ferrie and John Davidson, engaged the services of Michael Howe, M. A., a graduate of Dublin University, and an excellent classical scholar

However remarkable his ability to narrate in the original the adventures of Ulysses or the triumphs of Caesar upon the battle field, his methods of