

He was born in Collingwood in 1869, and was reared on a farm on the eastern slope of the Blue Mountains. He obtained the degree of B.S.A. from Guelph in 1888, and after occupying important positions in the United States till 1897, he returned to his Alma Mater as its president. The college to-day, due partly to him, enjoys not only a provincial standing, but has a continental fame as well, and pupils from it occupy prominent positions in almost every centre of the kind. In 1908 and 1912 he went to Europe to study agricultural conditions there. He now holds a most responsible position, and has every one for a friend.

Not only has the poet had the flame of poetic fire kindled and his flight of fancy wooed by the picturesque scenery of Simcoe, but the painter too has drawn his inspirations from the unusually beautiful aspect of nature in this quarter. Much of the success of Lucius R. O'Brien, mentioned before, is due to his having resided here for years, and had his genius stimulated by the lovely pictures that met his eyes as he gazed out over the placid waters of Lake La Clie.

May we not also claim both Shrapnel and Hume, whose pictures indicate that they are indebted to the beauties and attractions of our own county for much of the success of their paintings. And so on, down through the years these have been the inspiration and theme of many sketches until to-day one of Orillia's native sons, Frank Carmichael, is using the material gathered round Orillia for his sketches, which as a member of "The Group of Seven" artists he exhibits at exhibitions held by the Ontario Society of Artists.

But it hasn't been all work and no play, and in the realm of sport Simcoe County can and always has held her own. From J. G. Gaudaur, once champion oarsman of the world, and Geo. R. Gray, for long champion shot-putter of the world, to Walter Knox, champion all-round athlete of the world, to W.A. Boys, who won the All-Canada tennis championship in 1906, and from the victories of the early lacrosse players to the more recent honours won by hockey teams in our own county, is a long story of patient practice, and the art of playing up and playing the game. But here, as elsewhere, the indomitable unconquerableness of the pioneers has shown forth, and we have always had reason to be proud of our athletes.

And so on we might go through all the varied walks of life, and find that in each are men and women whose fame is but the result of the patient perseverance and the steadfast courage characteristic of their pioneers. But what of those who have fought the fight, but whose names have not been mentioned because they have remained unknown?

