

al drying up of its sources through clearing the land. The natural fall from the ridge spoken of to the Bay and the want of proper water courses caused the rain to wash gullies down the streets running North and South which at times near the edge of the water assumed considerable proportions and threatened Dunlop street with destruction. The deepest of these gullies existed down Bayfield street, where the rain fall was augmented by soakage from the pond referred to. This gully was for a long time of sufficient depth to allow of its being used as a rifle pit, where the merchants and others in the intervals of business, would amuse themselves firing at bottles and other targets.

It may be interesting to those who come after us to record that thirty five years ago wheat in Barrie brought 50cts. per bushel, oats from 12½c. to 15c. and a labouring man's wage was 50c per day.

Besides the gentlemen who have already been named as residents of Barrie over twenty years ago, there are others who have lived here for many years, who largely contributed to the Religious, Educational, Commercial and Mechanical interests of the town and other names of old residents should not be overlooked in a sketch of this character. Among them may be mentioned the Rev. Canon Morgan, the second Rector of Barrie, the Rev. Father Jamot, now Bishop Jamot, Very Rev. Deans North and O'Connor and Rev. Father Gibrat. Of the Presbyterian church, the Rev. Mungo Fraser, of the other churches, some from their itinerant system and others from their recent introduction, it is scarcely necessary to mention the individual names of their prominent ministers but of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, the Primitive Methodist Church, the Baptist church, the Reformed Episcopal church and the Congregational church the names of Rev. Messrs. Douse, Breden, McDowell and Willoughby, the Rev. Messrs. Crompton, Milner and Thornley, the Rev. Messrs. Griffin and Harryett, the Rev. Mr. McCormick and the Rev. Mr. Hindley; will not soon pass away from the remembrance of their several congregations and numerous friends. In other callings of life some of the older residents are or have been Dr. Pass, Dalton McCarthy, Dalton McCarthy, Jr. Q.C., and our present member of the House of Commons for West Simcoe, Daniel Whitley, Christopher Harrison, William Mann, John Mann, John Bingham, Thos. Meldrum, Richard Kearney, Frances Stevens, Richard Oliver, Dr. Oliver, John Hogg, John Pearson, Dr. Ardagh, Amos S. Arksay, John Burnside, John Elgie, John

P. Fulljames, John Bell, H. Bennett, Henry Fraser, H. Bernard, C.B., Richard B. Bernard, Henry Bingham, Ed. T. Bishop, John Boon, D'Arcy Boulton James Brewer, James Wright, Aaron Burnett, Geo. Plaxton, John Plaxton, Michael Burns, James Carson, Rev. Wm. Checkly, Rev. Francis Checkly, Wm. B. Clark, James Johnson, Joseph Johnson, Rob. Copeland, Dr. Crookshank, W. H. Crosby, Henry Dougal, Alexander Dunlop, James Dunlop, James Durham, Egerton Fort, Wm. Foster, T. W. George, Henry H. Gowan, Andrew Graham, Wm. Graham, Alex. Graham, Edward Graver, Capt. W. H. Gubbe, Thos. Hurst, John Laird, Joseph Locke, Rob. Lowe, Thomas Marris, Chas. McBride, Col. McKenzie, Daniel McKernan, William Montgomery, John Moore, Wm. Moore, Wm. Povey, T. Haggart, Wm. Root, Rob. Ross, P. L. S., Angus Russel, James Russel, Wm. Sanders, P. L. S., Lauder Sanders, Chas. Sanders, H. P. Savigny, P. L. S., John Strathy, Henry H. Strathy, Thomas Somers tt, John Sweeney, T. N. Warnock, George Whitebread, Richard Whitebread, W. S. Wray, Joseph Rogers, Andrew Miscampbell, John Holdsworth, Patrick Smith, Thomas Hutchins.

As we are to-day taking a memorable part in the erection of a new Post Office a short reference to the history of our postal facilities will not be deemed inappropriate. Our post office was first established in 1834 with our first merchant, Mr. Sandford, as post master. In the early days there used to be no regular post office nearer than Penetanguishene to the North and Holland Landing to the South. Between these two offices a mail-carrier passed on foot once a week, and he was afterwards allowed to drop and take up a mail bag on his journeys to and fro at Barrie. This carrier was a half-breed and some idea of his labors and endurance may be formed from the fact that he some times left Penetanguishene in the morning and reached here at night and at once continuing his journey proceeded to Holland Landing and was back again in Barrie the next morning. In those days the rate of postage was governed by the distance, there being no uniform rate as we have now. The postage to Toronto on a single letter was 4½d. or about 8c. of our present currency. To Montreal it was 1s. 2d. or 23c. To Halifax 3s. or 60c. and to pay the postage on a letter to the old country was a privilege that could only be enjoyed by the rich. Fortunately for the poorer settlers the present system of compulsory prepayment of postage was unknown, and they were enabled, when writing home, to let their friends settle the postage.