

## Marys and Its Lions.

The Thrifty Town Rests on a Solid Basis.

And Develops a Healthy if Not a Rapid Growth.

Design and Progress of the Place—Present Population and Property Assessment—Substantial Character of its Public Buildings—its Free Library, Churches and Industries.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE ADVERTISER.] ST. MARYS, Oct. 9.—In one respect at least this snug and thrifty little town differs from any other in this part of Ontario—it is founded on a rock. A vast mass of limestone—said to be hundreds of feet in depth—underlies the town and for some distance surrounding. Whether its business foundation is as substantial is another thing. Its growth is healthy, but it has not been at all as rapid as many of the other towns west and north of this. It has had a habitation and name of its own for nearly 50 years, and has yet but a population of 4,000 inhabitants, not to mention the increasing number of its holdings. However, and something more.

One of its most intelligent and reliable citizens gives these items of its history, which are no doubt correct. About 1840 the Canada Company gave a grant of 400 acres of land here to James Hamilton Ingersoll, a member of the well-known Ingersoll family, the pioneers of the place, on condition that a flouring mill and saw mill would be erected on it. Both these conditions were fulfilled, the water power of the Thames River being excellent at that time, but much more uncertain to-day, in consequence of the country above having been since cleared and drained. The flour mill was erected in what is now the heart of the town, and has always been in existence since, though rebuilt and more than once enlarged, and its machinery many times replaced and improved. The saw mill was erected a little farther down the stream, at "Little Falls," but its usefulness has long since gone.

PROGRESS AND POSITION. The locality of the mills began to grow into a village at once and it has continued to grow. At that time, of course, it was a long way in the backwoods. Hamilton was the nearest town of any importance, and the nearest point of navigation. Of course there was no railroad at that time. They tell the story of the first merchants driving through the woods from Hamilton with a load of goods and sleeping under the wagon at night, for want of other shelter, and allowing their horses to graze as well as they could on by.

In 1856 the Grand Trunk Railway was opened here, and, of course, that gave it a business importance it never had before. The next year the branch to London was opened. These days of railroad building were busy and wealth-producing days to all the surrounding place such as probably they will never see again.

In 1864 the village had grown to such importance as to be qualified to become a town and it was then incorporated as such, and as a municipality, from the country. As to its other progress, these facts will testify. It has now a population of about 4,000 and a property assessment of about \$1,200,000. It is something more than holding its own in point of numbers, and while the value of real estate has fallen here, as elsewhere, houses are in good demand and somewhat difficult to obtain.

ITS PUBLIC BUILDINGS. If the character of the public buildings of a town give indication of the intelligence and spirit of a people the inhabitants here have good reason to feel proud. Very few towns in Canada of twice its size can boast such a commodious and substantial town hall. It is a very neat and pretentious structure of stone, costing over \$15,000, erected in 1891. It is very complete in every way in its appointments—indeed more so than some of our cities. The high school building is also a large and complete building of white brick, far in advance of most towns of double the size of St. Marys. It was erected in 1875, but has been a good deal improved since. For many years it occupied about the third or fourth highest position among all the schools of its class in the Province of Ontario. Young men have gone out from its walls who are now occupying foremost positions as educators and among the learned professions both in Canada and in the States.

One fact may be mentioned here which is well worthy of note, and ought to give a synonyme to many other towns: There is a well established public reading room, open and free to not only every citizen but to every person who wishes to enter. In the commodious town building a large and well-furnished room, lighted and warmed, is furnished free to the Mechanics' Institute, together with a grant of \$75 a year, on condition that this free reading room, well supplied with leading journals, shall be kept freely open to all. For years before this room was thus provided the town council made an annual grant of \$150 for the same purpose. No wonder that the young men grow up and to with more than ordinary intelligence and public spirit. The Mechanics' Institute has also a good library, the advantages of which are given to every member at \$1 a year.

THE CHURCHES. The number, size and appearance of the churches also give good indication of both the good morals and intelligence of the people. Coming in by rail from the west, two as fine churches, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic, are seen crowning the hill, as may be found almost anywhere. The Presbyterians have two large and finely-finished churches. Revs. A. Grant and T. A. Cogrove are the ministers. There is also a splendid new Roman Catholic church, opened but a few months ago, and built at a cost of over \$30,000. Rev. Father P. Brennan is now the pastor. The Methodist have a large white brick church, to which a splendid addition is now being erected, for Sunday school and other purposes, at a cost of over \$3,000. Rev. Mr. Scott, the present popular president of the Conference, is the pastor. There is also a large and neat Church of England with beautiful and well-kept surrounding grounds, of which Rev. W. J. Taylor is the minister in charge. The Baptists have a substantial stone church, with Rev. S. Boone as minister. Here, too, the Salvation Army is also earnestly at work. The Latter Day Saints have a small band. No wonder the more of the place stands well. Added to this there is a strong Royal Templars' Council, with about 130 members, and a well-established and respectable W. C. T. U.

THE INDUSTRIES. The manufacturers are not numerous, as the water power of the Thames has become scarce here now in the summer season. Messrs. Carter & Co. are the proprietors of the large flouring mill, which has a first class reputation. It is being run day and night, and turns out from 200 to 300 barrels of flour each day. They are also extensive grain buyers and exporters, and own or occupy several storehouses. Maxwell & Sons have very extensive machine shops, where agricultural and other implements are made on a large scale. They are well supplied with machinery and are capable of giving employment to 150 men. They are running quite low just now, only about 25 or 30 hands being at work. There are also two flour mills here. The establishment of Weir & Weir was burned not long ago, but is now being rebuilt on a larger and more permanent scale. They give employment to about 30 hands the year round. Large stocks of flour are now standing near by ready for the machines as soon as they can be got in operation. Clarke & Eward are the owners of the other, which is not on as large a scale. There is also a woolen mill owned and operated by S. Myers & Son. J. S. Moore has a planing mill and sash and door factory. Richardson & Webster are pretty extensive manufacturers of dairy and cheese-making machinery and mill orders to many parts of the Province.

AS TO POLITICS. Politically the town is very evenly balanced. When Mr. Trow ran his last great contest there was only a majority of one in the whole town. Leading men on both sides positively assure a stranger that "it will be better than that next time." Very likely it will, but you may take your choice, good reader. Mr. Pridham, the present M. P. of the district, is a Conservative, but on the other hand Mr. Ballantyne, the M. P. P. for the past twenty years, is just as decidedly loaded up the other way. Each party has a well-sustained and spirited local organ, the Argus, Liberal, and the Journal, Conservative.

THE THAMES. The Thames River here runs through the first important town in its course. Mr. Whelan, the country registrar, who, by the way, seems to know everything about the town that is worth knowing, tells me this mighty river that so divides London into two cities, has its source in the townships of Lobo and Elma, about 35 miles above here, where two small streams unite. At the town of Mitchell other tributaries join it, and this side of Stratford the great Avon merges its waters. Between this and London the distance is 24 miles and some mill wheels are turned by its running waters, but there is no town. At this season a child can walk across its rocky bed but in the springtime it swells here, as at London, to a deep and rapid river often causing serious anxiety and considerable destruction by its rampage.

THE WIDOW RODE A BICYCLE. Her Conduct Caused a Church War at Birmingham, N. Y. BIRMINGHAM, N. Y., Oct. 9.—The High Street Methodist Church is now in a turmoil over the property of women riding bicycles. The trouble began when Mrs. Burrows, a widow, purchased a bicycle. She is an active worker in the church. At a prayer meeting the other night Samuel Stanley arose and denounced the act of bicycle riding as unchristian, unbecoming and a disgrace to the church. The decision of the audience by attempting to ride a bicycle of a woman riding a bicycle. The pastor, Rev. John Bradshaw, took sides against the bicyclists. Mrs. Burrows' friends threatened to carry the question before the next conference. The Young Women's Christian Association has established a wheel club in open defiance of those who disapprove of bicycles.

HAZED THEM WITH MOLASSES. Gamma Delta Initiation Through Which Boston University Girls Passed. BOSTON, Oct. 1.—The Gamma Delta Society of young women at the Boston University initiated the freshmen girls last week. For a few days a summons had been tucked upon the ladies' gymnasium door, ordering the freshmen girls to meet. They wore the gymnasium costumes, and were required to perform various feats, greatly to the amusement of the upper class women. First the timid freshmen were blindfolded and compelled to climb ladders backward. Then, with the bandages still upon their eyes, they were forced to eat molasses from a spoon. The results were headless ghosts, and with groans and sighs they hovered about the newcomers. This is the only chance the sophomore women have to "haze" their freshmen sisters, and they made the most of it. But the ordeal which every Gamma Delta had to pass through was regarded as harmless and amusing. After initiation the freshmen were served with refreshments.

CALVERLEY'S PROGRESS. The Wire Walker's Improvement Astonishing to His Physicians. TRENTON, N. J., Oct. 9.—The doctors of whom several were in attendance upon Calverley yesterday, regard the rapid progress which he is making as wonderful as his recovery itself. The right arm is not going on so well as could be wished, but with great care it is believed the hand will be saved. Dr. Cantwell told Manager Jackson that he now had every hope that Calverley will be able in due time to again follow his profession, and there is a probability that he will be able to fulfill an engagement to open a lengthy season at the Alexandria Palace, London, Eng., on May 1. Calverley's father and his late employer, O. B. Ormsby, Toronto, were in Trenton yesterday and to-day.

Well Diggers Strangely Killed. ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Oct. 9.—Geo. Anderson and Wm. Hunt, farmers, who live near Corns, were boring a well, when their drill struck a rock and broke short off. It was necessary for some one to go down into the well and dislodge the drill, and Anderson went. After he had reached the bottom, 160 feet, Hunt looked over the edge, and by some misfortune missed his footing and tumbled headlong into the shaft. His head collided with that of Anderson and the skulls of both were crushed, killing them instantly.

Love is said to be blind, but it usually goes there ahead of the old man just the same.

"THE PURITY OF" Apollinaris Offers the best security against the dangers of most of the ordinary drinking waters.

Scranton Coal D. DALY & SON 19 York St. Phone 348.

## Our Show-Room Opening

Last week was a grand success and was attended daily by large crowds. As some of our patrons were not able to attend

We Continue the Opening this Week.

We are showing a large range of Handsome and Striking Patterns and are certainly in a position to serve all comers with

Millinery, Mantles, Dress Goods, Silks, Trimmings, Etc.

OUR

## Carpet Department

Is specially well equipped for a large season's trade, and we invite all intending buyers to give us a look before purchasing.

## Spittal, Burn and Gentleman

Machine Tool Co. Lathes, Planers, Drills, etc.

VIGOR OF MEN Easily, Quickly, Permanently Restored.

Weakness, Nervousness, Debility, and all the train of evils from early errors or later excesses, the result of overwork, sickness, worry, etc. Full strength, development and tone given to every organ and portion of the body. Simple, natural methods. Immediate improvement. Failure impossible. 2,000 references. Book, explanation and proofs mailed (sealed) free.

ERIE MEDICAL CO., Buffalo, N.Y.

SINGER BICYCLES AGAIN AWARDED FIRST PRIZE AT WESTERN FAIR!

FANCY BREAD. Vienna Bread, Home-made Bread, and Fancy Bread of all descriptions.

JOHNSTON BROS., Leaver Bakery, Wellington Street

COFFEE HOUSE MARKET SQUARE. Everything that calls on us for a meal or a lunch goes away satisfied. A few more try us. Six dinner tickets 50 cents. Luncheon at all hours from 5 cents up.

We buy as low as we can—That's business sense. We sell as low as we can—That's progressive sense. You buy as low as you can—That's common sense. You buy of us—THAT'S DOLLARS AND CENTS for both of us.

WYATT & SON, 113 DUNDAS STREET.

Daly's Coal and Wood Yard. When you want coal don't forget that we have an immense stock of

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## Single Fare Excursion CHICAGO, Wednesday, Oct. 11.

—VIA—

MICHIGAN CENTRAL

"The Niagara Falls Route." Sleeping berths secured and all information at the City Office, 235 Richmond Street, Telephone 265.

JOHN PAUL, City Ticket Agent, O. W. RUGGLES, Gen. Pass. Agent.

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GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

CHICAGO

EXCURSION

OCTOBER 13 AND 14

\$9 30.

Seven Express Trains Daily! No Delays! No Transfers!

Passage passed customs and checked through. Sleeping Car accommodation secured in advance.

TO THE

WORLD'S FAIR

VIA

CANADIAN PACIFIC

From all Stations Sharbot Lake and West.

OCTOBER 6 and 7 Good to arrive back at starting point by Oct. 13

OCTOBER 13 and 14 Good to arrive back at starting point by Oct. 20

OCTOBER 20 and 21 Good to arrive back at starting point by Nov. 1

OCTOBER 27 and 28 Good to arrive back at starting point by Nov. 8

The Canadian Pacific Railway will sell Round Trip Tickets for

SINGLE FIRST CLASS FARE

For berths in Palatial Sleeper or Tourist Car apply to any Agent of the Company.

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LAKE STEAMSHIP LINE

One of the best electric-lighted steamships

MANITOBA ALBERTA and ATHABASCA

Is intended to leave OWEN SOUND every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

After arrival of train to leave Toronto at 7:50 a.m., calling at South St. Marys, Mich., only making close connection with the through train at Fort William. The 4:55 a.m. train from London, makes direct connection at Toronto Junction with the express for Owen Sound.

Thos. R. Parker, City Passenger Agent, 161 Dundas Street, corner Richmond.

WORLD'S FAIR EXCURSION

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TICKET OFFICE "Clock" Corner

RICHMOND & DUNDAS STS

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SINGLE FARE EXCURSIONS

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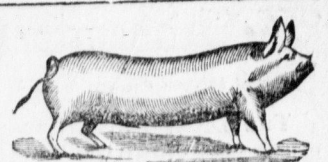
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We pay highest price for Hogs between 100 to 120 pounds, live weight.

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WILLIAMS' LIVERY, RICHMOND Street north. Stylish rigs, good horses, cloth riding and driving, at the shortest notice, also boarding and sale stables. Telephone 412.

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Royal and United States Mail Steamers for Queenstown and Liverpool.

"MAJESTIC".....Oct. 11

"TEUTONIC".....Oct. 18

"GERMANIC".....Oct. 25

"MAJESTIC".....Nov. 1

"MAJESTIC".....Nov. 8

"MAJESTIC".....Nov. 15

"MAJESTIC".....Nov. 22

"MAJESTIC".....Nov. 29

"MAJESTIC".....Dec. 6

"MAJESTIC".....Dec. 13

"MAJESTIC".....Dec. 20

"MAJESTIC".....Dec. 27

"MAJESTIC".....Jan. 3

"MAJESTIC".....Jan. 10

"MAJESTIC".....Jan. 17

"MAJESTIC".....Jan. 24

"MAJESTIC".....Jan. 31

"MAJESTIC".....Feb. 7

"MAJESTIC".....Feb. 14

"MAJESTIC".....Feb. 21

"MAJESTIC".....Feb. 28

"MAJESTIC".....Mar. 6

"MAJESTIC".....Mar. 13

"MAJESTIC".....Mar. 20

"MAJESTIC".....Mar. 27

"MAJESTIC".....Apr. 3

"MAJESTIC".....Apr. 10

"MAJESTIC".....Apr. 17

"MAJESTIC".....Apr. 24

"MAJESTIC".....Apr. 30

"MAJESTIC".....May 7

"MAJESTIC".....May 14

"MAJESTIC".....May 21

"MAJESTIC".....May 28

"MAJESTIC".....Jun. 4

"MAJESTIC".....Jun. 11

"MAJESTIC".....Jun. 18

"MAJESTIC".....Jun. 25

"MAJESTIC".....Jul. 2

"MAJESTIC".....Jul. 9

"MAJESTIC".....Jul. 16

"MAJESTIC".....Jul. 23

"MAJESTIC".....Jul. 30

"MAJESTIC".....Aug. 6

"MAJESTIC".....Aug. 13

"MAJESTIC".....Aug. 20

"MAJESTIC".....Aug. 27

"MAJESTIC".....Sep. 3

"MAJESTIC".....Sep. 10

"MAJESTIC".....Sep. 17

"MAJESTIC".....Sep. 24

"MAJESTIC".....Sep. 30

"MAJESTIC".....Oct. 7

"MAJESTIC".....Oct. 14

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