

of settlement and trans-shipment, and went so far in its efforts in this direction as to issue in 1813 a fiat, "this is a town." The place, however, did not grow very rapidly until after the war of 1812-14, when many half-pay English officers were located by the Government in the vicinity. Among others who came was a Captain Oliver, R.N., who purchased a portion of the Government reserve at the western side of the supposed town. Later, seeing the dissatisfaction in regard to the situation at Kempenfelt, Captain Oliver resold his land to the Government and purchased a greater part of the reserve at the head of the bay and had it surveyed into town lots. For the new town, which was then simply imaginary, Captain Oliver looked about for a name and adopted Barry. This was after a Captain Barry, who was in command of the 15th Regiment of York, while engaged in transporting stores to Penetanguishene, and is not, as generally supposed, after Captain Robert Barrie, who was prominent in the War of 1812-14, and who had command of the British squadron at Kingston at that time. Some good Scot evidently took a hand in the matter later, thus the ending "ie" now in use.

BATTEAU.—The time of the first application of this name to the post office, or rather to the village, will probably never be definitely known. In its plural form, "Batteaux," it was in use upon the arrival of the oldest inhabitant of the present day. Officially the post office should be spelled in the singular, the change having been effected by the family of William Bouchier, one of the earliest settlers, and at one time owner of a large part of the surrounding land. What appears to be the most reasonable history of the origin of the name, beyond the fact that it is the French word meaning "boat," is that in early days, when the creek which flows through the village was of greater volume than at present, its outlet at Nottawasaga Bay was a good anchorage for the batteaux of the Indians, but more particularly for those of the soldiers who passed to and fro between Fort Nottawasaga and Michillimackinac before and during the War of 1812. It might be noticed that the outlet of the creek is about half way between the Fort and the Hen-and-Chickens Islands, another point where protection could be procured against the storms of the bay, hence it was in all probability used as a place of safety.

BAXTER.—The location of this post office was first known by the settlers as Cob Coy, from the following circumstances: Before the day of barns the settlers erected a kind of building on posts with a roof, but