

who were the hares, and as they only had four minutes start the run was pretty close.

It was very amusing to watch them all trying to get through the water; some little chaps getting up to their necks, had to swim the rest of the way. This time the trail was better laid as it was only lost once. Putman was the first to come in for the Juniors, followed by Bricker.

THE EARLY DAYS OF UPPER CANADA COLLEGE.

THE FOUNDING OF THE COLLEGE.

First Paper.

It has seemed fitting to the writer, now that we are comfortably settled in our new building, to give some account, however imperfect it may perhaps be, of Upper Canada College as it appeared in its infancy.

Sir John Colborne, who had received the Governorship of Upper Canada in 1829, had obtained a charter which gave him permission to found a university. This at first he did not do, thinking that the surroundings were not yet far enough advanced for one, but he decided to have a better class of school than the old Blue School. And out of this intention has arisen Upper Canada College as it appears to-day.

The first record we have of this design is to be found in the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Education for Upper Canada which took place on the 4th of April, 1829. At this meeting Dr. Strachan, who was presiding, submitted to the Board a letter from Sir John Colborne, expressing his intention of organizing a college to succeed the old District or Blue School.

The President of the Board stated that the Lieutenant-Governor had requested the Government to grant £1,000 per annum to maintain this school. He said that it had been recommended that the building for the school should be erected on part of a military reserve adjoining Peter Street, and parallel to it. There was a likelihood also, he added, of having several exhibitions attached to the College.

A letter from Sir John Colborne to Dr. Jones, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford, was then read. It was written to the Doctor requesting him to cooperate with two other gentlemen, one of whom was Mr. Charles Yonge, of Eton, in choosing a

principal and certain masters for the new college. Sir John Colborne considered that ten masters—four classical, two French, two writing, one mathematical and one drawing—would be necessary. A liberal salary was to be given to each, and they were also to be provided with houses in which boarders could find accommodation. The new school was to be styled the Upper Canada College, and to be put up as rapidly as circumstances would permit.

The Governor, as we noticed above, had recommended the Board to have the college built on the plot of ground lying to the west of John Street. The Board, however, took a different view of the matter. They believed that the most suitable location would be on some part of Russell Square, as that was nearer for the boys of the town to come to. For a time, therefore, the question of the site was a subject of some discussion, but upon Sir John notifying them that he would leave the choice entirely with them, they at last decided on building in Russell Square.

Prior to this a notice had appeared in the *Loyalist* calling for tenders for building a school-house and four houses. But on examining the first tenders they were all found to be in excess of the intended expenditure and were rejected. After some delay a suitable offer was made to them and accepted. This tender amounted, we believe, to about £5,300.

About the middle of July the ground called the school square, in the centre of which was standing the old Blue School, was sold by auction. The extreme east end of the old square was reserved for a school known as the Central, which was to prepare children to enter the College. North of it was vacant ground into which, with much difficulty, the old Blue building was moved.

But before this happened the Board had decided to lay out Russell Square, and resolved that the buildings for the college were to be erected 132 feet from King Street and on a line with it.

The contract called for the new college by January 1st, 1830, while the contractor was allowed until September of that year to complete the masters' residences.

Thus was Upper Canada College, the only example in Canada of the great Public Schools of England, founded.

(To be continued.)