

Colne disposed of, James Cockshutt took passage for himself and family in the barque "Lady Digby," and sailed from Liverpool for Quebec in July, 1827, arriving safely in the early part of September. A steamer plied between Quebec and Montreal, and by this means they reached the latter city, where they made a stay of a week with friends. Then up the broad St. Lawrence, staging past the various rapids, and reaching York, now Toronto, the Queen City of the West, then occupying a place relatively as important as it does to-day, although the population numbered only about 1700. The original intention had been to settle in Pittsburg, Pa., but being persuaded by a friend, James Laycock, these plans were changed. Mr. Laycock also sailed in the "Lady Digby," bringing with him a stock of merchandise.

Upon reaching York, James Cockshutt opened a general store in a rented building east of the market, but in 1828, he and Mr. Laycock erected a double store and dwelling on King Street, near Yonge, on the site afterwards occupied by the Globe newspaper offices. Shortly after this Mr. Laycock sold his stock of goods to his friend and returned to England. This business proved so prosperous that Mr. Cockshutt decided to open a branch in Brantford, for which purpose he entered into a partnership with Christopher Batty. The Brantford project was started in the fall of 1829, under the title of Batty & Co., and Ignatius Cockshutt, then seventeen years of age, was sent to that village to assist in the business. Batty & Co.