

a grant of land at both sides of the river, so as to get full control of the water power, and Sir John Johnstone (the son of the celebrated Sir William Johnstone), who had raised a regiment for the crown during the war of Independence, had petitioned to the same effect. The gordian knot of the situation was cut by giving Colonel Stone 400 acres on the west side of the river, and Sir John a large grant on the east side, and making the middle of the river the boundary line between the two. By and by Charles McDonald, a good-looking young man, of Scotch parentage, made his appearance in the little settlement, fell in love with Mary Stone and married her. His next operation was to lease the water-power from his father-in-law, and to put up a grist and saw mill. In 1812 he opened a small country store. He was joined by his brother, John, in 1817. The McDonald firm eventually acquired all the Stone and Johnstone properties, and flourished greatly for many years as lumbermen, millers and general merchants. They had a wide reputation for probity and business worth, and trained many young men in their own ways, among whom was the late Sir John Abbott, the whilom Premier of the Dominion. The war proved a gold mine to Charles McDonald, just as it did also to Billa Flint, of Brockville, and thousands of other business men throughout the country. In the fierce struggle which it produced for the naval supremacy on Lake Ontario the McDonald saw mill was kept going to its utmost capacity, in order to supply lumber for the government dockyard at Kingston, which even-