

ing articles are shown : 3 yds. factory cotton, 4s.—12s. ; 1 side saddle, £4 ; by footing 3 pairs of stockings, 4s.—12s. ; by a week's board, 10s. (York currency.)

Colonel Talbot was a somewhat strange character—a gentleman in whom queer business habits, arrogance and kindness were strangely mixed. His mode of recording transfers, the unpatented claims and locations of settlers was simplicity in the extreme. The sweep of a rubber plug across the map or plan which hung in his office sufficed to dispose of one squatter, and the stroke of a lead pencil to put in possession another. He significantly told those of the "Family Compact class," who sought favors at the expense of poorer settlers, or on the strength of nationality, or of official and family connections, that "his dogs did not understand pedigrees and place hunters, "and to beware of them ;" but a poor and honest emigrant not only received a good location, but at times was materially assisted in his efforts to clear it. He was not, however, without considerable vanity ; and it was his ambition in his early years to build up in the western wilds at Port Talbot an estate worthy of the scion of a Talbot. He called the settlers his people, and in a sense truly they were. He spent much of his means in assisting them (\$80,000 it is said), married them, christened their babies, and even undertook their spiritual welfare by holding services, to which he secured attendance by sending round the whiskey bottle at its conclusion—a man whose memory is revered by many ; who was honest in his dealings, unselfish to a degree, yet of whom a parliamentary report of 1834 says : "This gentleman was the "private secretary to one of the Lieutenant Governors of Upper Canada and afterwards got 302,420 acres of land (171,200 acres in Western District) to settle. How he settled it, or what he has done with the monies he received, is not known at the Surveyor General's office, but he has received a pension or allowance of £444 a year out of the proceeds of our public lands sold to the Canada Company, and has obtained already from that source nine years of pension or £4000."

Following the survey and construction of the road, settlers filed in along its length, and ere the expiration of the year 1820 most of the lots lying thereon, particularly in Howard, had been taken up. John Bury and sons, as early as the spring of 1816, had established themselves on Lot 59 and adjoining lots, part of the site of modern Clearville, and had already felled the historical tree. The same fall Joseph Woods and sons had laid the site and opened the history of Morpeth by a similar act. The year following saw D. S. Baldwin, Samuel Burns, E. Newcomb and John Kitchen located as neighbors to Mr. Bury ; and in Howard pioneer Mr. Woods was already equally well supported. On the several lots directly opposite the latter, or near by, three or four members of the patriot family of Coll, from the Thames River, whose parent head and six sons had taken up arms at the call of country in the eventful war of 1812, were at work on their drawings ; and immediately east, on Lot No. 90, Nicholas Cornwall, a member of that U. E. Loyalist family whose members formed early leading settlers of Colchester and the Upper Thames, and not only twice gave the County of Kent a member of Parliament,* but the County of Essex one of the first and subsequently, by marriage, a second, under the name of McCormick, had broken into the surrounding forest, and was then perhaps planning and anticipating the erection of his pioneer saw mills on Big Creek, which he completed in

*NOTE.—Kent County has often been taunted with sending silent members to the Legislative Halls of the country, but this golden acquirement has not been possessed, alone, by her later representatives ; for, if the story be true, the elder Cornwall enjoyed it to a considerable degree, his maiden and only speech being simply a remark concerning the atmospheric condition of the hall, which, in the great and preliminary effort to "let off" he imagined, like his own person, equally elevated in temperature, and thus in so promising : "It is very warm ! Better raise the windows !" he lost his speech and sat down.