

erected on the farm lands of Mr. Backus, in which at least three of the Ladd family became masters, their Christian names being Alvro, Lemuel and Phural, respectively. (Ermatinger—"Talbot Regime," page 285.)

SCARBORO. The site of one of Scarboro's early schools was on the side road between lots 34 and 35, concession C, and nearly in front of the Thompson home. It was erected about 1824. The first teacher is not now known, but a Mr. Fitzgerald taught in this school in 1826. (See Boyle's "Scarboro," p. 189.)

1825.

ST. THOMAS. The Rev. Alex. McIntosh is presumed to have been the first dominie in a school erected at this time in St. Thomas. He is referred to as having been the probable choice of the Rev. Dr. Stewart. It appears that a few individuals, chiefly farmers, had guaranteed the payment of one hundred pounds sterling per year for three years for the maintenance of a school, and in this year the school was reported to be in operation under the superintendence of a young gentleman from the Lower Province. (See "The Talbot Regime," page 287. Ermatinger, 1904.)

1826.

CREDIT RIVER (Mississauga Indian Mission.) Egerton Ryerson having been appointed to the Credit Indian Mission, took up his work among them in the middle of September, 1826. A quotation from his diary describes his first days among the natives as follows: "In one of these bark-covered and brush-enclosed wigwams, I ate and slept for some weeks, my bed consisting of a plank, a mat, and a blanket also for my covering; yet I was never more comfortable and happy." Again he says: "I feel an inexpressible joy in taking up my abode with them. I must acquire a new language to teach a new people." Ryerson was soon to show his qualification for the task before him by assuming the role of master builder. In less than ten days after his arrival among the Indians, it was resolved to construct a building which should answer the dual purpose of church and school. The Indians, though very poor, responded to the resolve with readiness, and although but two hundred in number they nevertheless subscribed one hundred dollars toward the building in less than one hour. (See Burwash's "Egerton Ryerson," in the Nation Builders Series, page 21.) At the expiration of six weeks the edifice was completed and paid for, thanks to the great enthusiasm of the young missionary, who rode to the Hamilton, Niagara, Yonge Street, and York Circuits until he could secure the sum required. That he found gratification and reward for his efforts seems certain since later he reports in his diary, "I am very certain I never saw the same order and attention in any school before."

GRAPE ISLAND (Mississauga Indian Mission.) Grape Island and Huff's Island (or at this date of 1826, "Logrim's") were leased for a period of 999 years for the sum of five shillings. Fifteen Indians signed the indenture, which was dated Belleville, October the 10th, 1826. The above islands comprised some sixty-one acres, and upon Grape Island, the smaller of the two, a village was projected and constructed. The first winter