

his leaving the place and returned their sincere thanks for his faithful services as People's Warden for fifteen years. After serving as postmaster here for twenty years and upwards he removed to Collingwood in 1855, where he was appointed to the same position, which he filled for twenty-two years. He was succeeded by J. S. Darling. After his removal the post-office was kept for a time on the opposite corner towards McGibbon's mill, which building was afterwards burned. When the "Georgian Bay" block was built the post-office was removed there and kept in the premises now occupied by the Bank of Toronto branch till the present post-office building was erected. The present occupant of the office, Mr. J. S. Darling, is closely related to Mr. Hamilton, being a sister's son, and served his apprenticeship with him. Thus, in this year of grace, 1912, the office has been continuously in the Hamilton family for 82 years.

CHAPTER VII.

EARLY ROADS AND MAILS.

Official records inform us that the first mail carrier was John Whalen of Whalen's clearing below the hill on the Military road beyond Mundy's canteen. The mail was carried on horseback between Penetanguishene and Holland Landing once a week. This is the first horse we hear of after Gordon lost his, three years previously.

During 1829-30 a trail was opened (a primitive one at that) from the brow of the hill at the garrison towards the prospective town, following the Military road to Wilberforce St. back of North ward school-house, where it turned to the right crossing lots back of where St. James' church now stands, thence following Church Street on the level as near as may be till reaching Teuton's corner and Yeo Street where it dipped down into the cedars behind the Beck residence and across the Crawford gardens keeping close to the bank nearly to the present residence of Edmund Gendron, where stood formerly Donovan's tavern. From this point the trail crossed Fox Street passing near the site of V. Martin's dwelling and the old Anglican parsonage, thence crossing Peel Street just below the present post-office, continuing its course to the intersection of Simcoe and Main Streets in front of Thompson's store and so on down the present Water St. to Mitchell's