

to pick a quarrel. Matters went from bad to worse, until something like a reign of terror settled upon the district. Deeds of depredation were rife, and many of the Scotch settlers were waylaid and beaten. At last the strong arm of the law was called in, and, on the first Sunday in May, 1824, a body of militia from Perth and vicinity attacked the camp of the Ballygibbins and put them to the rout, killing one, wounding several and capturing a large number. This put a stop to the disgraceful affair, and thenceforward the Irish and Scotch have lived side by side in peace and quietness. The former located mostly on the north side of the river, in what is now called the Township of Huntley. Taking a walk through the township one fine fall day, I dropped into a wayside inn to rest and have a chat with the proprietor about the Ballygibbins. I found him quite ready to talk, and he detailed many amusing incidents respecting the early days, but I have only space for one anecdote illustrating how very popular the Hon. Peter Robinson was with the people he had brought out. It appears that the settlers were at a "logging bee," when tidings came that the wife of one of the workers had given birth to a bouncing baby. The youngster who brought the news had forgotten whether the welcome little stranger was a young gentleman or a young lady, but the happy father was equal to the occasion: "Be jabbers! boys," cried he, "it shall be named Peter whether it's a girl or a boy!"

In 1821 a site of 200 acres of land was offered by the Government to any one who would erect a grist and saw mill. An enterprising fellow named Shepherd accepted the terms and built the mills. They were soon after burned down, but he re-erected the saw-mill. The place was now known as Shepherd's Falls. In 1829 Mr. Shepherd sold out to Messrs. Shipman & Boyce, who added a grist mill and distillery. The name was changed to Shipman's Falls, and subsequently to Ramsayville. In 1832-3 the first bridge was built, and in 1835 the first stone building (at present used as an hotel). In 1845 Mr. E. Mitcheson erected a second grist mill. In 1851 the Ramsay Woollen Cloth Manufacturing Co. was formed by the more enterprising residents with a capital of 1,250*l.* in 100 shares. They secured a good water-power for 100*l.* The mill was a frame building, fitted with one set of machinery. After running for a few months it was unfortunately destroyed by fire, and there being some hitch which rendered the insurance void, the Company became bankrupt. However, one of the shareholders, Mr. James Rosamond, sr., purchased the site, and erected a very fine stone mill, to which he subsequently added another building, almost doubling the capacity. This was the inception of the woollen manufacture for which Almonte is now famed throughout Canada. It drew population to the place, and business increased rapidly. The question of a name was once more brought up, and Waterford was chosen, but it transpired that there was already a Waterford further west. A public meeting was called, and some one suggested Almonte, as a compliment to General Almonte, whose exploits in Mexico had attracted considerable attention. In the winter of 1853 a meeting was called to consider the question of constructing a macadamized road to Smith's Falls. In the course of the discussion, the idea of a railroad to Brockville was broached and received with favour. A company was soon formed, and a charter obtained for a road from Brockville to Pembroke. The counties of Lanark and Renfrew voted \$800,000 to aid the scheme, which was, later on, still further enlarged by the construction of the Canada Central, running from Ottawa, the two lines joining at Carleton Place. At the completion of the first-named road, the population of Almonte was 450; in 1871 it was 2,030, and at present it must be near 3,000, though the past years of depression caused quite a little exodus.

In 1866 the Messrs. Bennett and William Rosamond having succeeded their father, formed the Rosamond Woollen Co., which secured a fine site on the island above mentioned, and erected a mill, which is the second largest in the Dominion, and surpassed by none as regards excellence of machinery and general appointments. In 1869 the original Rosamond mill was sold to the present owners, Messrs. Elliott & Sheard, who have enlarged and improved it in various ways.

GENERAL NOTES.

Almonte was incorporated in 1870; it comprises 650 acres; the total assessable property is valued at \$700,000, and the taxation for all purposes amounts to sixteen mills on the dollar. The educational wants of the community are well looked after; the High and Public schools are commodious stone buildings, the former has an average attendance of seventy and the latter of three hundred and fifty. The Separate or Roman Catholic school is a large frame building in rear of the church.

The early settlers donated books to form a free library, and a goodly collection was the result. An attempt to establish a Mechanics' Institute failed, and the library is now open only once a month. It is to be regretted that the rising generation of what are termed the "working classes" do not show more appreciation for such institutions. In Pembroke, a very fine library, got together for the Mechanics' Institute, was lately sold to pay arrears of rent. Works of sterling worth have no chance, apparently, against "yeller-kivered literature."

Among other "institutions" the village boasts Masonic and Oddfellows' lodges; a Rifle Association; a branch of the Merchants' Bank; a Curling Club; two brass bands; a weekly news-

paper, called the *Gazette*, and an anti-Connubial Club. The latter, my lady readers may be glad to learn, is nearly used up—all the members but two having succumbed to Cupid's darts. In its flourishing days the Club published a semi-occasional journal, which is said to have furnished some decidedly rich reading.

Not a great many years ago Almonte was dubbed the Manchester of Canada. There were mills of all sorts here, there and everywhere and all busily employed. Real estate attained extraordinary value and some astounding prices were paid for small lots. A few who bought early and sold quick made money, but many burnt their fingers badly.

A good many industries which were then in existence are now looked for in vain. Some were burnt down, others failed. Among the by-gones may be mentioned the Almonte Furniture Company which after a run of two years suffered by fire. A bonus of \$10,000 was voted to assist in establishing a larger factory, but the vote was contested by some of the inhabitants and the Courts held that the money could not be paid as the Company was not solvent. Meanwhile a fine large factory had been erected and furnished with machinery, but not a stroke of work has ever been done in it.

THE ROSAMOND WOOLLEN CO.'S MILL.

This fine mill, locally known as No. 1, occupies a picturesque situation on the point of the island beside an exceedingly pretty cascade. Technically, it is termed a twelve set mill, but the ordinary reader will be better able to judge of its size from the fact that when fully running it affords employment to nearly three hundred hands. It is complete in all its details and good taste is combined with business tact and thoroughness, reflecting great credit upon the Managing Director, Mr. Bennett Rosamond. In every department this is observable. The machinery is of the finest description—the best produced on both continents—and the greatest pains are taken to ensure that all work turned out shall be up to the standard and of uniform quality. The products of this mill have been accorded the highest honours at Philadelphia, Paris and, indeed, wherever exhibited, and if there is a chance to improve upon what is already excellent, the management is ever on the alert to take the step forward. In the matter of general management, labour saving facilities, economical regulations, fire service system, attention to the health and comfort of the operatives, and in many other respects, the mill may safely be pointed to as a model establishment. I should mention that it is lit throughout with gas manufactured on the premises.

VICTORIA MILL,

or No. 2, the property of Messrs. Elliott & Sheard, consists of two large stone buildings, joined by an elevated covered way. This establishment gives employment to about eighty hands, and all that I have said of No. 1 relative to the excellence of the material turned out, the fire service and general management applies equally to No. 2. This was the original Rosamond mill, and excellent as Mr. Rosamond left it, his successors made many improvements. These two manufacturing industries are really the mainstays of Almonte. I did not ascertain the amount of the pay roll of No. 1, but that of No. 2 averages from \$1,800 to \$2,000 per month, and by the rule of proportion that of No. 1 must be in the neighbourhood of \$5,000—the total being a very large amount of cash to circulate in a country village regularly. Items such as these well illustrate the importance of home industries. Were the woollen mills to be obliged to close it would be a sorry lookout for Almonte, and the country round would quickly experience the effects, for of course the operatives would have to emigrate and that would mean so many less consumers and customers for the farmers and shop-keepers to supply.

Near No. 2 Messrs. Baird & Co. have a mill of smaller capacity, but with excellent machinery. The same firm owns and runs a grist mill.

Among other establishments may be mentioned Elliott & Sheard's shingle mill; Cameron Bros.' saw and woollen mills; Wylie's grist mill; Rosamond's foundry; a sash and door factory and a pump factory.

RELIGIOUS.

St. Paul's (Anglican) was opened for worship in 1863; it cost \$6,000 and will seat 250. In 1867 the bodies were removed from the burial ground in rear of the church and a very fine parsonage was erected at a cost of \$5,000, which is being steadily paid off. Service is held alternate Sundays in the old parish church at Clayton. The present minister is the Rev. Mr. Stevenson, an eloquent Irishman.

The first Roman Catholic Church was destroyed by fire about eleven years ago. In 1869 the present fine edifice was erected, and thus far about \$24,000 has been expended upon it. It contains a magnificent marble altar, which cost \$1,200, also a capital organ. The church will seat six hundred and is attended by a large congregation. The first resident priest was the Rev. Dr. Faure, now of Pembroke, who was succeeded by Rev. Father Stenson. In 1875 the latter withdrew and the present occupant, the Rev. Father Coffey, was appointed. The priest's residence, a handsome stone villa, cost some \$5,500.

St. Andrew's Church is the largest place of Protestant worship in Almonte. The congregation was organized by the Church of Scotland

Presbytery in the year 1834. The first minister was the Rev. John Fairbairn, who is still alive, and in charge of a Free Church congregation at Greenlaw, Scotland. He was succeeded by the Rev. Dr. Macmorine, a native of Sanquhar, Scotland, who died in 1867. The congregation left their old place of worship, on the 8th Line of Ramsay, on the completion of the new church in Almonte, in 1862. Dr. Macmorine was succeeded by the Rev. John Gordon, a native of Nova Scotia, who has since left the ministry for the legal profession. The present incumbent, the Rev. John Bennett, a native of Kinross, Scotland, became pastor in 1872. In consequence of the very rapid growth of the congregation under Mr. Bennett's ministry, the church was greatly enlarged and improved in 1875 at an expense of over \$3,000. The present strength of the congregation is 200 families, and 370 members, with large Sabbath Schools and a Bible Class, both in town and country. The congregation has doubled itself during the past six years. A substantial, neat and commodious stone manse, opposite the church, is the residence of the minister. The total income of the congregation for 1877 was \$3,124.73. This church is now connected with the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

St. John's (Free Church) was erected in 1867, under the pastorate of the Rev. W. M. McKenzie. It will seat 650, and judging from the fact that last year eighty-six persons were added to the membership of the church, the ministry of the present pastor, Rev. W. B. Edmondson, would seem to be very acceptable.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1864 with eleven members. In 1868 the membership was large enough to warrant the erection of a stone chapel, which was done at a cost of \$2,300. The present pastor, Rev. D. S. Mulhern, reports the congregation very fair, with a Sunday-school averaging eighty scholars.

DANIEL GALBRAITH, ESQ., M.P.,

is one of the few surviving who can tell of the hardships of the pioneers. He is a good type of the early Canadian emigrant—a man who has hewn a home for himself in the bush; seen the bush give way to well-tilled farms; watched and helped the growth of the hamlet and village and had his merits recognized by his fellowmen who have awarded him the highest gifts in their power. To natural shrewdness Mr. Galbraith early added much self-acquired knowledge and soon took a prominent place in the direction of municipal matters. Retiring from this field, he was elected to the Local Legislature and subsequently to the House of Commons, representing North Lanark, his present constituency, eleven years in all—five sessions in the Local and six in the Commons. He is a staunch adherent of the Liberal party. Mr. Galbraith is Vice-President of the Canada Central Railway Company, and President of the Almonte St. Andrew's Society.

DR. MOSTYN, M.P.P.

Dr. William Mostyn comes of a Welsh family who during Cromwell's time moved to Ireland, where they became large land owners. He was born at Elphin, Roscommon, Ireland, in 1836, and accompanied his parents to Kingston, Canada, the following year; was educated at Kingston Grammar School; in 1858 he graduated at Queen's University, where he held a fellowship, and practiced a short time at Smith's Falls, removing thence to Almonte. When the village was incorporated he was chosen Reeve, a position he held three years. He has been President of the North Lanark Agricultural Society since 1867; represented Rideau and Bathurst Division in the Ontario Medical Council from 1869 to 1872, and was Associate Coroner for Lanark for fifteen years. He is Surgeon to the 42nd Battalion. He holds a high position among the Masonic fraternity, and from 1867 to 1873 was D.D.G.M. for Ottawa District, G.L.C. Dr. Mostyn, like most old countrymen, is a great admirer of athletic and field sports. He has been President of the Mississippi Curling Club of Almonte for the past three years, and the donor of several medals for competition. As may be imagined from the foregoing brief sketch of his career, he is very popular with all classes, and it requires but a short acquaintanceship to satisfy one that his popularity is richly deserved. Dr. Mostyn was returned to the Ontario Legislature for North Lanark at the general election in 1875. My lady readers may be interested in learning that the worthy Doctor is one of the two surviving members of the Anti-Connubial Club. That is the only black mark against him.

D. J. MACDONELL, ESQ.,

is senior partner in the law firm of Macdonell & Dowdall. At the last municipal election he was chosen to preside over the deliberations of the Council, and report says he makes an excellent Reeve. Mr. Macdonell holds a Captaincy in the 42nd Battalion, and has the reputation of being a crack shot.

PRETTY SPOTS.

Elm Glen, the residence of Andrew Elliott, Esq., of Elliott & Sheard, is charmingly situated a short distance outside the village proper. It commands beautiful views all around and faces the cascades before mentioned.

Major Gemmill's residence, located at the opposite end of the village, is an exceedingly cosy-looking villa surrounded by beautiful grounds. The Major's family were among the earlier settlers and from the recollections of one of the

members, Mr. John Gemmill, published in the *Almonte Gazette*, I gleaned many interesting notes.

REILLY'S HOTEL,

as the engraving shows, is a building of magnificent proportions. It is situated near the river, and from the observatory a very fine bird's-eye view of the surrounding country can be obtained. The hotel is well-appointed throughout, the bed-rooms are of good size and nicely furnished, and there are several comfortable parlours, with pianos, &c. Parties desiring a quiet place to spend a little time next summer will find Mr. Reilly ready to give excellent accommodation. The Mississippi affords good boating, fishing and shooting. In connection with the hotel is a hall that will accommodate 400. The public library before alluded to is located here. Mr. Reilly erected this hotel four years ago at a cost of \$10,000. It is the only hotel that sends a 'bus to the trains.

The patronage of the travelling public is divided between the Reilly's and the Davis House—the latter a very fairly kept hostelry situated close to the depot.

The views herewith are from photographs by the local artist, Mr. Willis.

THE GLEANER.

Ten miles of wire are in use for synchronizing clocks in London.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA has just attained his fiftieth birthday, and the proprietors of the *London Telegraph* have presented him with a valuable service of plate in recognition of his brilliant services as a journalist.

LORD ODO RUSSELL, British Minister at Berlin, declined to be raised to the peerage "in that crowd"—Lord Beaconsfield and Salisbury. Lord Odo is not only a very sagacious and long-sighted diplomatist, but he is the brother of a great duke, of the strongest Whig traditions, and knows very well that he can get a peerage from his own party when he wants one.

IMMEDIATELY after the death of the late Pope, Pius IX., Alessandro Malpieri, a Roman sculptor, obtained permission from the authorities to take casts in plaster of the face and of the right hand of the Pontiff, and carried out the undertaking with success in the presence of Dr. A. Ceccarelli, chief physician at the Vatican.

An old law has been revived in Germany, and now, if you arrive at an hotel with a lady, you must prove by documentary evidence that she is either your wife, daughter, or sister. This paternal care for travellers' morals, says the *Echo*, is, to say the least of it, supremely absurd, and in any other country except Prussia would laugh itself out of existence. But in Germany ridicule does not, as in France, kill anybody or anything. The police are above laughter.

Of Charles Dickens' home at Gadshill, a private letter says that it has already been sold. A fortnight ago it went under the auctioneer's hammer, Mr. Charles Dickens, the eldest son of the novelist, removing to London. It is not yet known in what manner the many mementoes of Dickens were dispersed, nor what prices were realized. The statement is made, however, that the miniature Swiss Chalet—a present from Fechter, the actor—in which Dickens wrote nearly all his later works, has been carried from "Gadshill" to the grounds of the Crystal Palace Company at Sydenham.

HUMOROUS.

A BOARDING-HOUSE mistress, like the rest of us, has her weak and strong points—the weak being her coffee, and her strong point the butter.

"Eugenia, Eugenia, will you still insist on wearing the hair of another woman upon your head?" "Alphonse, Alphonse, do you still insist upon wearing the skin of another calf upon your feet?"

A SLIPPERY politician being informed that the leaders of his party threatened to throw him overboard, exclaimed, "Let 'em do it if they dare, and I'll soon show 'em that I've strength enough to swim to the other side!"

A FRENCH paper reports a murder trial in which a witness testified that he heard two pistol shots on the staircase, and sent his wife to see what was the matter. "You did not go up-stairs yourself?" "No, sir; I was afraid of the revolver."

ONE great beauty about the female suffragists is that they never try to conceal their ages. Lucy Stone announced herself to be sixty the other day, and so great was the surprise (at the confession) that a tea-party was immediately planned for the heroine.

The short, brief life of the fly is full of suggestions to the soul of man. Happy and brisk in the bright summer days, the waning year sees it only too often point a moral in the cream pitcher and adorn the tale of the butter.

"WHY does lightning so rarely strike twice in the same place?" a professor asked the new boy in the class in natural philosophy. "Because," said the new boy, "it never needs to." And it is a little singular that nobody had thought of that reason before.

"THERE are no circumstances under which honesty and integrity of purpose will not stand a man in good stead," says some philosopher; but we would like to know how it will help the man who finds himself suddenly forced to associate with a bulldog in an orchard with a high wall round it.

JEALOUSY is the worst of all evils, yet the one that is the least pitied by those who cause it. The only perfect Fitting Shirt made in Canada is made by TREBLE, of Hamilton. Send for samples and cards for self-measurement. Six A Number One Shirts for \$12.