

will be found a detailed account of the Emigration under the auspices of the Hon'ble Peter Robinson, to which, as being the first settlement upon an extensive scale in these counties, considerable interest naturally attaches.

In the year 1826, His Excellency SIR PEREGRINE MITTLAND, then Governor of the Province of Upper Canada, who had taken a deep interest in the Immigrations of 1823 and 1825, visited the new settlement in this District. Addresses, breathing a spirit of deep gratitude to the Government for their removal to this country, a high appreciation of the kindness and constant solicitude for their welfare evinced by Mr. Robinson, and a warm attachment to the British Throne, were presented by the Emigrants settled in the Townships. One address, a verbal one, from the English settlers on the Communication Road of Smith, pointed out, in unmistakeable terms the great advantage that would accrue to the settlement, if a good mill were erected in the stead of the apology already alluded to. His Excellency appears to have taken the hint, for immediately afterwards, the mill now known as Martyn's, was erected under the superintendence of Mr. McDonald, and at the Government expense. So important an acquisition to the comforts of the settlers were duly appreciated by them, as the addresses to the Earl of Bathurst, then Colonial Secretary, in the following year, amply testified. This Mill was afterwards sold to Messrs. Hall and Lee who continued to work it for many years.

During the same year, a number of gentlemen, settlers in the district, met together for the purpose of deciding upon a name for the new Town, the reservation for which had been made as early as 1818, and the survey of which had been completed in 1825. The choice was not difficult to make. The eminent services of the Hon'ble Peter Robinson in the settlement of the country, and the high estimation in which he was held by all who had come in contact with him, suggested the propriety of a more lasting tribute being paid to his name. Hence the choice of the name "Peterborough," a name which continually calls to mind the services of one, who though claiming no claim to being the founder of this little Colony, was justly entitled to be considered as among the most active promoters of its settlement.

The embryo town soon gave indication of progress. In a letter written by Lieut. Rubidge, R. N., then a resident in the Township of Otonabee, in 1828, addressed to Captain Hall, and inserted by him in his travels in North America, published in 1829, occur these passages "A Town is growing up near me, roads are improving, bridges are being built; one of the best mills in the Province is just finished at Peterborough, and another within three miles of me. Boards, and all description of lumber, are cheap, about five dollars for 1,000 feet, four saw mills being in operation. Stores, a tannery, distillery, and many useful businesses, are established or on the eve of being so at Peterborough." * * * "I was the first settler in the Township of Otonabee, and almost before a tree was cut down; now there are nearly two thousand acres cleared, and 125 families, consisting of 500 souls. On parallel lines, at the distance of three quarters of a mile apart, roads, of from 33 to 66 feet wide, are cut and cleared out by the parties owning the land all through the Township." * * * "This last winter very nearly 5,000 bushels of wheat have been taken in by storekeepers at Peterborough alone. Only three or four years ago flour was transported back there, so that no