little tavern here. He was from Cobourg, Northumberland County, and was a large property owner in this part of the county. The late John Valentine, afterwards of Paisley, kept the first store in the place, and it was managed by Malcolm McLean, the ex-Mayor and present postmaster. The original load of goods with which this store was opened out was brought on an ox-cart from Toronto via Hamilton, by Robert Clement, a son of one of the very first settlers in Brant; and it required eight days to make the journey from Hamilton, the greater part of the road lying through the forest.

It is not necessary to detail the many little incidents forming part of Walkerton's early history. By common consent, it came to be called after its founder from the time it was nothing more than a collection of log huts nestled in the forest, and the name—than which, under the circumstances, none could be more appropriate—clung and still clings to it through the many transpositions and transformations which have resulted in making it the municipal and political metropolis of this large and magnificent county.

Walkerton was never an incorporated village, but was taken from the Township of Brant and erected into a town by special legislation—the General Act requiring a population of 3,000, whereas its population at the time was 994, and to include this number an area of some 1,400 acres was covered, which has since been increased to 1,500, in order to extend to the railway depot, the nature of the country preventing its near approach to the centre of the place. The town was "proclaimed" immediately after the passage of the Act of Incorporation, at the beginning of the legislative session of 1871, and the first meeting of the new Municipal Council was held March 17th ensuing. Joseph Walker, the founder of the settlement, was chosen first Mayor; Wm. McVicar, first Reeve; and Messrs. Stephen Noxon, David Moore, Hugh Todd, William Shannon, Jas. F. Davis, Wm. Smith, Moses Stewart, Louis Wisser and Paul Ross, Councillors. Walter Langmuir Watt was the first Clerk and Treasurer, and John