

of ten years, life for himself. Confinement being distasteful, he refused several positions of trust on no other grounds, but his self-reliant nature, industry and accumulative habits soon enabled him to gratify his youthful intentions, and having provided himself with the necessary equipment, he secured a contract for the transportation of supplies to the many lumber camps in the vicinity. This venture proved a financial success, and soon afterwards he associated himself with his brother James, who had started the first brewery in the city, afterwards buying him out. He conducted this large and profitable business from 1856 to 1870 when he sold it to his brother James. During all this period, extending over twenty-eight years, he had the care of a large tannery on his mind, and this he continued to successfully carry on until he determined to devote his entire energies to the lumber trade, for the manufacture of which he built two large steam mills on the Chaudière and worked them until 1885, when he retired from active business life, and has since enjoyed the well-earned repose his long years of arduous, and continuous work merited, broken only by attention to works of a charitable and public nature, in which he had always taken deep interest, and to his numerous investments, which in real estate were most fortunate, he being possessed, among other valuable property, of the land required for the C. P. railway and C. A. station grounds, Ottawa. No one has probably a more correct appreciation than himself of all that is involved in the great changes in this locality, where he has spent his life. All that has taken place; the many vicissitudes through which it has passed, the evils that threatened its prospects, and the means by which they were frustrated and its future assured, would in themselves occupy more space than we have at our disposal. One of his earliest recollections was the laying of the corner-stone of the locks on the Rideau canal. Boy-like he was there, and tells of seeing Sir John Franklin, of Arctic fame, who performed the ceremony, with whom were Col. By, Hon. Thomas McKay, Isaac McTaggart, George Laing, Robert Laing, Wm. Elegg, and his own father and brother James. This was an important epoch in the early settlement of the country, and was celebrated by a half-holiday to workmen and soldiers, among whom were distributed extra rations and rum. A little later on he was an interested observer of and active assistant in settling one and for all the Shiner troubles. In the early days of this settlement, a large percentage of the inhabitants was of that not very desirable class who are to be found in connection with all large public works, and at certain seasons of the year they were largely augmented by those who were engaged in what was then termed

"running the river" (Ottawa). This latter class, for positive wickedness, and utter absence of every particle of common decency, was unique, and for many years, when not engaged on the river, they waged incessant war against anything in the shape of respectability and morality in the community, by indecent language and acts of violence. This organized black-guardism terrorized the whole community, and bid seriously to threaten prospects which were then even fair. The very instruments necessary to the development of the natural resources of the district seemed destined to exterminate every element of respectability and decency in the settlement. In order to understand the terrible incubus this organization was upon society, it must be remembered that Bytown was then only a small place, numbering scarcely 3,000 souls, the principal industry in which these men were principally engaged, being the making of square timber, and taking it to the Quebec market; the manufacture of lumber other than for local consumption being almost unknown, and the numerous industries which now furnish profitable employment to much capital and labour were as yet scarcely in their infancy. It will, therefore, be easily seen that with such a small male population, individual effort could not hope to control such a large number of lawless ruffians, and for a time they escaped by one means and another the punishment they so richly deserved. The immunity from punishment they had hitherto enjoyed finally prompted them to one of the many acts of violence that resulted in their final extinction. The vicinity of the supplies was a favoured locality of these rascals; on the Sapper's Bridge they would congregate in hundreds, and as it was then as now a public thoroughfare, could with great convenience and facility insult and molest respectable citizens with comparative safety. One afternoon they proceeded to assault James Johnstone, M.P., who, finding himself surrounded by these demons, was forced to escape by jumping over the bridge into the canal, which being frozen over and filled up with snow, while it broke his fall prevented his further escape—he sticking so deep in the snow as to be unable to extricate himself, whereupon the fiends conceived the idea of rolling an immense stone, weighing about seven tons, on the unfortunate and unoffending man. The news of this dastardly and cowardly action spread like wild-fire, and, as if by magic, the respectable people rose *en masse*, drove off the villains and captured the ringleaders, who by means of a stratagem were safely lodged in the jail at Perth, then the county town, and at the following assizes received such punishment as their conduct richly deserved. In the meantime, the public, thoroughly aroused, organized vigil-