

HAMILTON in 2003



J. E. WODELL,
The Dream Writer.

"The improvement of the north shore was rapid."

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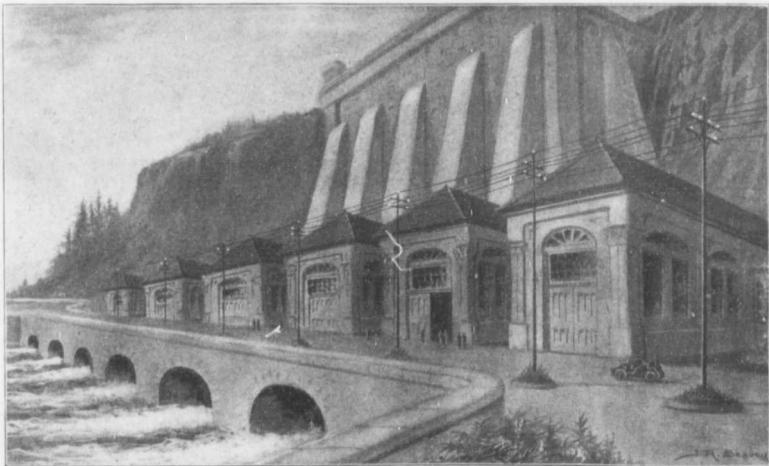


J. R. SEAVEY
The Dream Artist.

IT is interesting to note the development of Hamilton for 'ae past 100 years, as recorded in the ancient files of the Spectator and as told in the records of the municipality, kindly loaned for the purpose by City Clerk Kappelle, who is himself an old man, and who has had handed down to him from his father, the late clerk of the city, a veritable mine of interesting data. According to the records, the city began its career of industrial greatness just 100 years ago. Naturally, the beginnings were small, and very many mistakes were made that had to be rectified as the years passed. The government of the city 100 years ago was in the hands of a municipal council—21 citizens elected each year by the popular vote. So far as the records show it is quite evident that this system was a most unsatisfactory and disastrous one. The citizens were constantly being made the victims of aldermanic greed and graft. How they were content to suffer as they did it is difficult in this enlightened age

to imagine. They did suffer for many years, and it was not until the year 1930 that a change was insisted upon. But of this, more later.

In the year 1903 there was much rejoicing among the people because by reason of a small water power electric advantage (the International Harvester combination had been induced to locate its Canadian works here. It was announced that the works would employ from 8,000 to 10,000 hands. If the good people of 1903 could return to the city to-day and see the hundreds of manufacturing concerns within the city limits, not one of which employs fewer than 10,000, and most of which have a much larger employe roll, they would certainly be astonished. And if they could see the stretch of manufacturing concerns, from Lake Ontario's shores in the east all the way to and taking in what was once known as the town of Dundas in the west, including all the valley land between Crematory Hill and the city's western limits,



"The backbone of Hamilton's industrial pre-eminence."