DUNDURN AND BURLINGTON HEIGHTS

BOURINOT

of Burlington at the north end of the Beach was called Wellington Square, until about the year 1874 or 1875.

"The Gore in Hamilton was named on account of its shape; at least, the oldest inhabitants think so. The Gore District was named after Francis Gore in 1816; Wentworth County after his wife (Annabella Wentworth, daughter of Thomas Wentworth, who was a brother of Sir John Wentworth, Lleutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia); Halton County after William Halton, Governor Gore's Secretary. Gore Bank and Gore Street, in Hamilton, were called after the district. The park was not at first intended to be goreshaped, but rectangular. King Street was a road following the old Indian trail from Niagara to Ancaster. George Hamilton gave, but did not deed, a portion of land south of King Street toward a public square; Nathaniel Hughson agreed to give an equal portion from his farm north of King Street, the two grants to extend four blocks from James to Mary Street. Hughson did not keep his promise (hence the shape), and Hamilton's son tried to get back the land his father had given.

"Long before anything was done to make a park of it, the 'wilderness' was called the Gore. Mr. Beasley and Major O'Reilly say it was so described sixty years ago. In the Statutes of Canada, 16 Vict., chap. 33 (10 November, 1852) you will find: 'Whereas in the original survey of the City of Hamilton, a vacant space of triangular form, and known as 'the Gore' of King Street, was left for the purpose of a public square,' etc. It seems to have been simply 'the Gore,' like the Gore of Townsend, Gore of Canaden, Gore of Ancaster, etc.

"Sir Allan McNab was buried in that walled enclosure in Dundurn grounds. Mr. Beasley, city clerk, and others were at the funeral, and remember it, and some younger men have looked at the grave. There was danger of a row at the funeral, the late Dean Geddes (Church of England) and the late Bishop Farrell (Roman Catholic) both claiming the right to officiate; but the Hon. John Hillyard Cameron induced the Orangemen and other Protestants to go away peaceably."

I refer elsewhere (*infra*, p. 25) to the mysterious circumstances of Sir Allan's last hours on earth, which caused much excitement in Canada, as intimated by Mr. Gardiner.

I cite the following description of the Heights from Kingsford's "History of Canada," vol. VIII., p. 268 :

"Vincent's force, increased by the detachments from Fort Erie and Chippewa, by two companies of the 8th and by a small body of seamen of the Royal Navy, under Capt. Barclay, on the following morning marched to Burlington Heights. The ground that he occupied embraced much of the western part of the present Cemetery and included Harvey Park, also a portion of Dundurn Park, the residence of Senator McInnes. The main road, generally speaking, followed what is now King Street, easterly, and westerly to Lock Street. At that time it branched off to the north-west and was the road followed to York (Toronto). It passed through the ground on which Dundurn House is built, till it reached the height overlooking the bay, whence it continued on the high ground for some distance along the side of the lake. This road, which formed the eastern boundary of the camp, was within a short distance south of the present entrance to Dundurn. The western line was traced on the summit of the height in the cemetery, and was continued to the crown of the descent to the bay. Some earthworks interlaced with fallen trees are still traceable. The position was admirably chosen. It was

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