

as Allendale. It was connected with Barrie in 1863. In 1870 Barrie became a town and in her picturesque location she presents one of the prettiest pictures in the whole continent.

Barrie of to-day is an important shipping port, a solid commercial town, the county seat of a large and wealthy county, the home of financial institutions controlling millions of local capital, has a beautiful and healthful situation, and a community thoroughly abreast of the progress of the age in all the attributes of enlightenment and civilization.

Barrie has never taken that place as a manufacturing centre, which her natural position and railway facilities would indicate as properly belonging to her. She has, however, a number of establishments of considerable importance. Among these may be mentioned two foundries, woollen factory, grist mills, large tannery, two breweries, planing mill and factory, carriage factory, saw mills, soda works, creamery, wicker works, two furniture factories and the G. T. R. shops at Allendale. The town has both gas and electric light plants, the latter being owned by the corporation. In banking facilities it is well supplied by agencies of the bank of Toronto, and Canadian Bank of Commerce as well as several private banks. There are several fine large stores and public buildings including music hall, built in 1901; goal, court house, town hall and market, opera house, police court, fire hall, armory, electric light station, post office and custom house, public library, new hospital, collegiate institute, central school and three ward schools, separate school and convent, salvation army barracks, and eleven churches. The waterworks system is a complete one and they have a perfect system of fire protection. The waterworks system is also owned by the town.

Although, as we have said, not es-

entially a manufacturing centre, Barrie has a sure source of future prosperity in the extensive area of excellent agricultural country of which it must always be the business centre. Its geographical situation, splendid railway connections, which makes access to seats of commerce easy, and fishing and hunting near by, all go to make it a desirable place of residence for those who wish for a short time to retire from the rush and bustle of the large cities, and also for those who wish to enjoy for the summer months the pure, cool air of the lake, and the bracing atmosphere of the high altitude.

Barrie is one of the healthiest towns in Canada, in fact, it ranked first in this respect at one time, according to the Dominion statistics. When you have visited it and seen the position it occupies, affording the very best natural drainage, the cleanliness of the streets and the taste displayed by its citizens in keeping their places neat, and have quenched your thirst with the pure water from their artesian wells, and breathed the cool, exhilarating air, that is always floating around even on the hottest days, you will readily acknowledge the possibility of it retaining its high reputation from a sanitary point of view, which makes it more desirable as a place of residence. The natural beauty of the place seems to effect everything and everyone in it, for no matter where you go the efforts of the citizens all tend to add to its lustre with their well-kept lawns and pretty gardens surrounding their homes, however small or humble they may be, giving the town an appearance of thriftiness that must impress even the casual observer, and which is fully borne out by a better acquaintance with its hospital people. Its public interests are carefully guarded by efficient local legislators and its moral standing is un eclipsed.