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An Appreciation of a Famous Ontario Centre.

Guelph is one of the interesting spots in prosperous Ontario. It enjoys the triple honor of having a Royal name, a literary parentage, and a distinguished historian.

John Galt tells how in 1827 he marked the founding of the place, giving it due importance and solemnity by felling a huge tree, as a beginning of a clearing in the dense forest.

The silence which followed the resounding fall of this monarch of the woods was broken by his companion, Dr. Dunlop, who, with characteristic cheeriness, "pulled a flask of whiskey from his bosom and we drank prosperity to the City of Guelph." The Royal City, says a writer in Picturesque Canada, "commands one of the choicest of agricultural realms—a succession of alluvial bottoms, pastoral streams, and fruitful hill-sides. . . . Experimental farming took early and deep root in this district, enriching by its results not alone the district but the entire province."

This foreshadows the planting close to Guelph in 1873 of the Ontario Agricultural College, whose buildings, with those of the Macdonald Institute for teaching domestic science, have become of late years the Mecca of agriculturists and educationists from Canada and the United States.

Modern Guelph, with its stores of creamy limestone and its handsome residences on the hills and slopes separated by the river Speed, is a most inviting place, growing steadily in population and assessed value. Its healthfulness is well-known and its excellent market is renowned. Nor is the city without manufacturing activities. The flouring mills of James Goldie and the Raymond sewing machine works have been many years established. To these were added more lately the Bell organ and piano factory, whose product goes to all parts of the world, and the Armstrong Carriage Works, which are also exporters. David Allan's distillery is a thing of the past, but Sleeman's brewery and the

modest establishment that puts out East Kent ale are very much alive. There are carpet factories, knitting factories, foundries, and sash and door works, also Burr Brothers furniture factory.

What promises to be one of the most important industries in Guelph is the establishment of the Taylor-Forbes Co., situated at the point where the Grand Trunk Railway crosses the river. Here are produced lawn-mowers and hardware of every description; also Sovereign boilers and radiators. The concern employs several hundred hands, and for its product there is a large market both at home and abroad. From the known skill and energy of the managing partner, Mr. John M. Taylor, it may be predicted with confidence that these works will develop rapidly and firmly.

A feature of Guelph, in addition to the College and the Institute, is the Homewood Sanitarium, which has for many years been devoted to the treatment of mental disease, inebriety, and the opium habit. The grounds, on the borders of the city, have a high and charming outlook and are skirted by the gently flowing river. It has been found needful of late to erect additional buildings, and opportunity was taken to remodel the establishment; an official opening of the new premises has just been held. The accommodations are described as in every way excellent and the hygienic appliances second to none on this continent.

An institution of which the people of the Royal City are proud, and with reason, is the Winter Fair, which consists of exhibits of fat stock, horses, sheep and hogs, fowls, etc. This show, which usually lasts about a week, has for its concomitants lectures on the care of cattle, demonstrations of the curing of meats, the packing of dead poultry for exportation, etc., etc. It attracts crowds of people from all parts of Ontario and not a few from the neighboring states, who are anxious to see, what the farmers of Wellington County can so well display, the results of intelligent cultivation of the soil and the breeding of cattle second to none in America.

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