

not a few were officially named after distinguished men or noted places, as Gowan, Angus; others again from Indian words, as Nottawa, Washago.

The purpose of this paper is to trace the name of each individual place to its original source in such a way as to present as far as possible a view, disconnected though it may be, of the history of the early life of the county. This is no easy task. Though not more than sixty or seventy years have elapsed since the first settlers ventured into the unbroken forests of the county, yet that generation of bold and hardy pioneers who led the van in making this country what it is has passed away and their descendants have in many cases forgotten or neglected to cherish the recollection of the early backwood life of their ancestors, and not unfrequently the first families have become extinct, or their offspring have moved to parts unknown, so that the origin of the names is in some cases clouded in some uncertainty.

One noticeable feature is, that where the original names remain, they are a pretty safe indication of the nationality of the pioneers. Where the names are of Scottish origin, it goes without saying that the locality was first settled by immigrants from Scotland. The same is true of the English, Irish and French names.

It is impossible to return thanks to all who have assisted in this work, either by correspondence or the loan of volumes, but it would be most ungrateful not to mention Simcoe's Grand Old Man, Senator J. R. Gowan, Barrie; H. Robertson, K.C., and F. T. Hodgson, Collingwood; George Hale, Orillia; Rev. Canon Craig of Petrolia, a former resident of the county; A. C. Osborne, of Penetang, and H. F. Gardiner, Principal of the Institute for the Blind, Brantford, and author of "Nothing but Names."

**ACHILL.**—This name was given by the Irish settlers in the vicinity who came from Achill, or Eagle Island, in Connaught, on the west coast of Ireland. The island is small, containing about 2,300 acres, and rises to a height of 1,530 feet above the sea.

**ALLANDALE.**—Upon the completion of the Huron, Ontario and Simcoe Railway—later the Northern Railway, now the Northern Division of the Grand Trunk Railway—to this point in 1854, it was named Barrie Station, a name it retained until the spur was built to the county town. In 1858 the post office was established. The present name was given in honor of Hon. G. W. Allan, who owned land in the vicinity and who was an intimate friend of those engaged in the